



ALTA VISION

*WELCOME TO THE
COUNTRY WITH
MANY WORLDS*

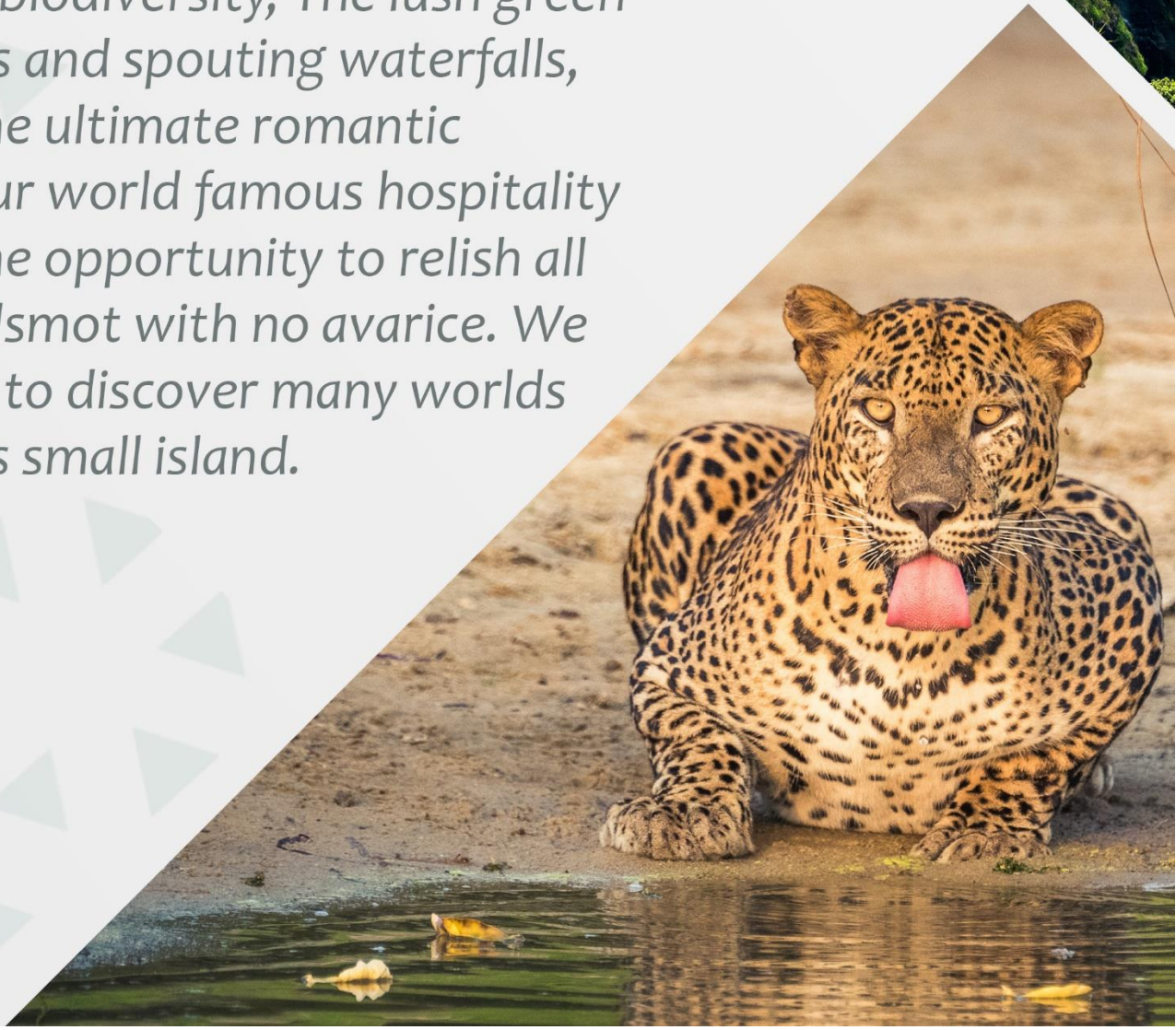
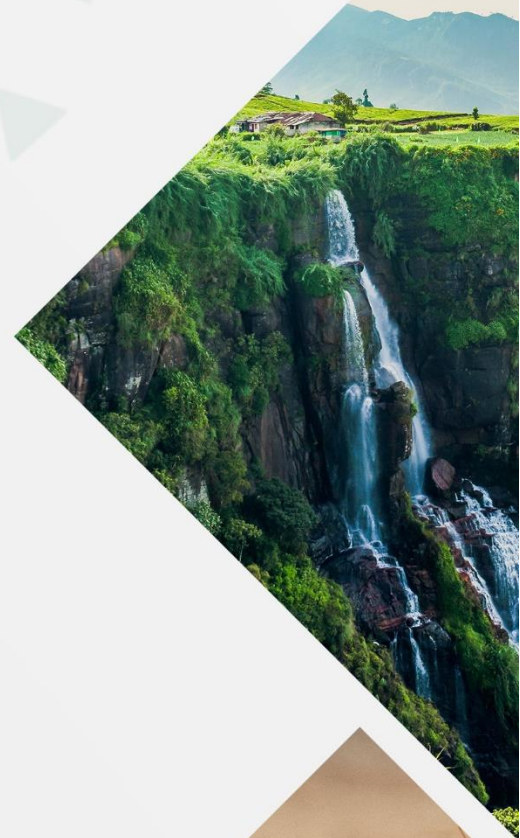


**CULTURAL
TRAILS**



ALTA VISION

Famed to be the pearl of the Indian Ocean, would possibly deceive a person as if it was an illusion of a paradise on earth. The stretches of coasts around the island make it glow in gold adding more fantasy made by the evening sunset. Owning the world's most prominent virgin forests with a surprisingly high degree of biodiversity, The lush green mountains and spouting waterfalls, provide the ultimate romantic escape. Our world famous hospitality provide the opportunity to relish all of these alsmot with no avarice. We invite you to discover many worlds within this small island.

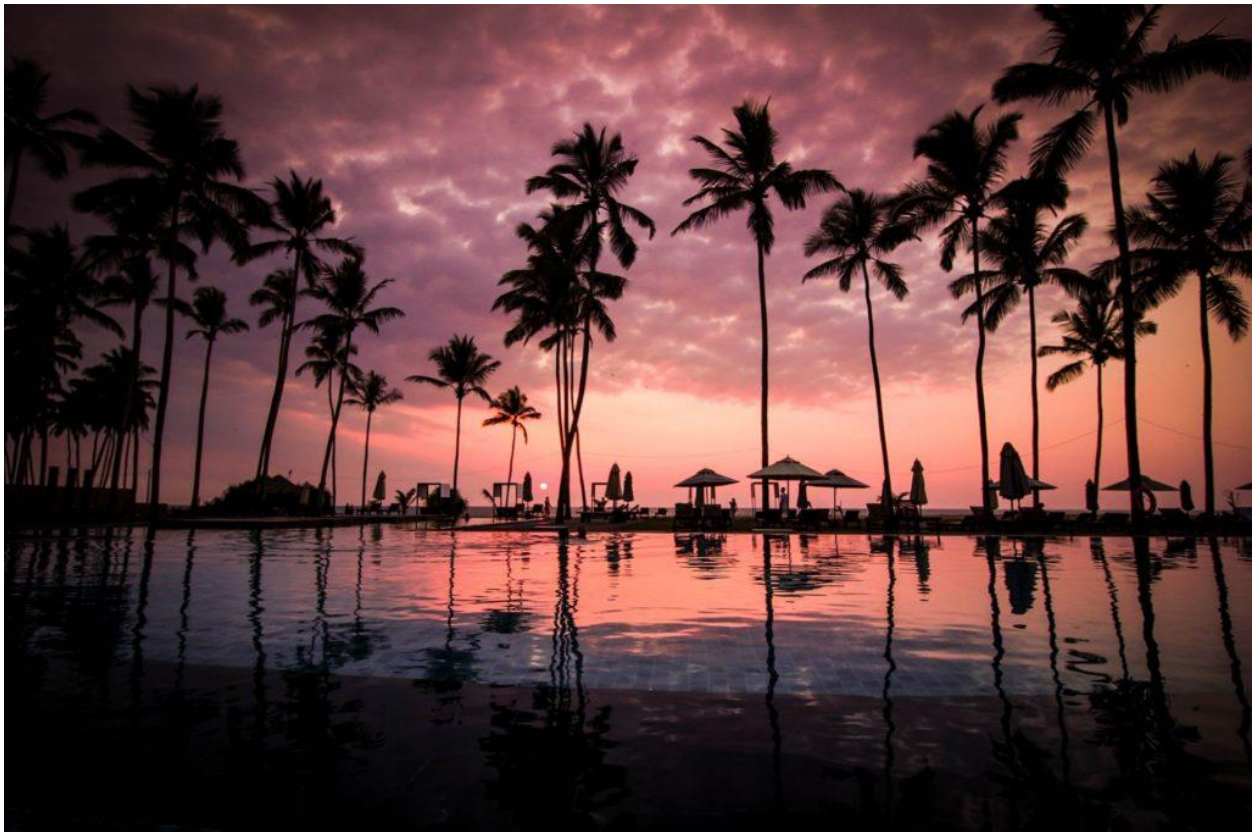




YOUR PROGRAM

DAY 01

Colombo Airport - Negombo (20 min drive)



You arrive at Bandaranaike Airport, where your driver welcomes you. You are greeted by the tropical air of this magical island.

Drive to Negombo, a beautiful beach town, nicknamed “Little Rome”, close to the airport and ideal to recover from your long flight. Settle into your hotel for a well-earned rest.

DAY 02

Negombo - Kandy (3 hours' drive)



After the breakfast at the hotel, you can go for a walk around the town, you will visit the famous Negombo fish market and explore colonial churches as well as fish and vegetable markets. You can also go for a boat ride along the Muthurajawela canal, the longest in Sri Lanka.

Drive to Kandy, which is the cultural capital of Sri Lanka. Kandy lies almost at the center of the island. This city is surrounded by mountains and lush greenery.

Once in Kandy, carry out a city tour of Kandy, including Upper Lake Drive, Market Square and a Gem Museum. Then proceed to hotel, where you stay overnight.

DAY 03

Kandy Temple – Peradeniya Botanical Garden



In the morning, visit the Temple of the Tooth Relic, in the royal palace complex. Since ancient times, the relic has played an important role in local politics because it is believed that whoever holds the relic holds the governance of the country. Kandy was the last capital of the Sinhalese kings and is a UNESCO World Heritage site. And then, you can visit the beautiful and impressive Royal Botanical Gardens of Peradeniya. The 60 acres territory by the mighty Mahaveli River offers a relaxing walk among one of the largest collections of flora from all of the tropics. Not to be missed: the royal palm tree avenue, canon ball trees, the orchid collection, the great lawn and endless carpets of multi-colored flowers. Count about 2 hours for this visit.

Optional - You can also visit the Bahirawakanda Buddha Statue which is located on top of the Bahirawa Kanda Hill. This beautifully sculpted white statue displays Buddha in the seated Nirvana pose and can be seen from the entire city of Kandy that sprawls out before it. It stands at 88 feet in height and is one of the biggest Buddha statues in Sri Lanka.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 04

Kandy – Habarana (2-3 hours' drive)



Take the breakfast at the hotel. Then get on the road to the center of the cultural triangle. Visit the temple of Nalanda Gedige, one of the most ancient Hindu temples in the country. Then visit the Dambulla Cave Rock Temple. This Buddhist temple is a UNESCO World Heritage site, located on top of a rock, and consists of five caves. All are filled with Buddha statues and have beautiful wall paintings. The view over the surrounding environment is breathtaking!

At 15:00, you can go on an exciting jeep safari at the Minneriya National Park. The park is known for its large elephant population, counting approximately 400 pachyderms. You might also see other wild animals such as: crocodiles, buffalos, deer, varans, cormorans, pelicans and a multitude of birds. The park is equally interesting for its landscapes, among the wetlands, lakes and mountains rising in the background.

Check in to the hotel for overnight stay.

DAY 05

Habarana – Polonnaruwa – Habarana (2 hours' drive)



Early in the morning, to avoid the long lines, visit the famous “Lion’s Rock”. Sigiriya is Sri Lanka’s most popular cultural site, belonging to the UNESCO World Heritage. It will take about 2.5 hours to discover the gardens and caves, and climb up the 200 meters high rock. Half way up the rock, your guide will show you the painted caves covered by ladies’ frescoes, believed to be King Kashyapa’s concubines. Once you reach the top, you can see the ancient palace ruins and enjoy an amazing view on the surroundings.

Then drive to Polonnaruwa and explore its multiples sites featuring religious and architectural remains, with Gal Vihara as its main attraction, a group of four marvelous Buddhas carved in granite stone. Rent a bike and go for a fun ride around the area which stretches more than 5km. Both locations have been placed under the protection of ‘UNESCO World Heritage’.

Overnight stay at the hotel.

DAY 06

Habarana – Anuradhapura – Colombo Airport (4-5 hours' drive)



In the morning, drive towards Anuradhapura, formerly the flourishing royal capital of an ancient kingdom. Make a stop in Aukana, where you can admire the highest ancient Buddha statue in Sri Lanka, the Aukana Buddha. This statue stands at a height of 11.36 meters and is carved from a block of rock. The statue is located near Kala Wewa reservoir, where you can take a nice walk along the edge of the tank. Then witness the glorious past of this venerated city in the well-preserved ruins of ancient palaces, temples, kovils, bathing pools and other structures at Anuradhapura sites. Many of the ancient Buddhist temples are still active, and you can visit the sacred Sri Maha Bodhi tree, believed to have grown from an imported branch of the peepal tree that sheltered the Buddha as he meditated towards Enlightenment. In addition, visit the site of the sacred tree Sri Maha Bodhi and walk around the grand Dagoba to witness the locals practicing their faith. (The visit of Anuradhapura can include all the royal ruins which surround the territory of about 50km and it requires a good half-day).

Transfer to the Bandaranaike International Airport on time for the departure flight.

Inclusive

- Private transport and transfers with AC vehicle (by CAR), English speaking chauffeur
- Overnight stay in double room & meal plan at hotels aforementioned in table here-above (subject to availability)
- **Half day morning Jeep Safari at the Minneriya National Park (including the entrance and the jeep)**
- Government taxes (please note that in the event of the Sri Lankan Government increases or introduces new taxes we will be compelled to increase our rates accordingly.)
- Colombo office assistance 24/7

Exclusive

- International Air tickets
- Visa fee (check online <http://www.eta.gov.lk/slvisa/>)
- Lunch and dinner, and beverages during meals
- **Visits and activities not mentioned in “inclusive” section**
- Camera/ video permits
- Expenses of personal nature
- Rates for cultural sites & activities
- Tips (please account for \$15 per day for the driver, to be given at the end of the tour upon your satisfaction)

