

INSPIRING
VACATIONS

14 Day Ultimate Sri Lanka

Colombo

www.inspiringvacations.com

5 Star 15 Day Sri Lanka Uncovered

FROM

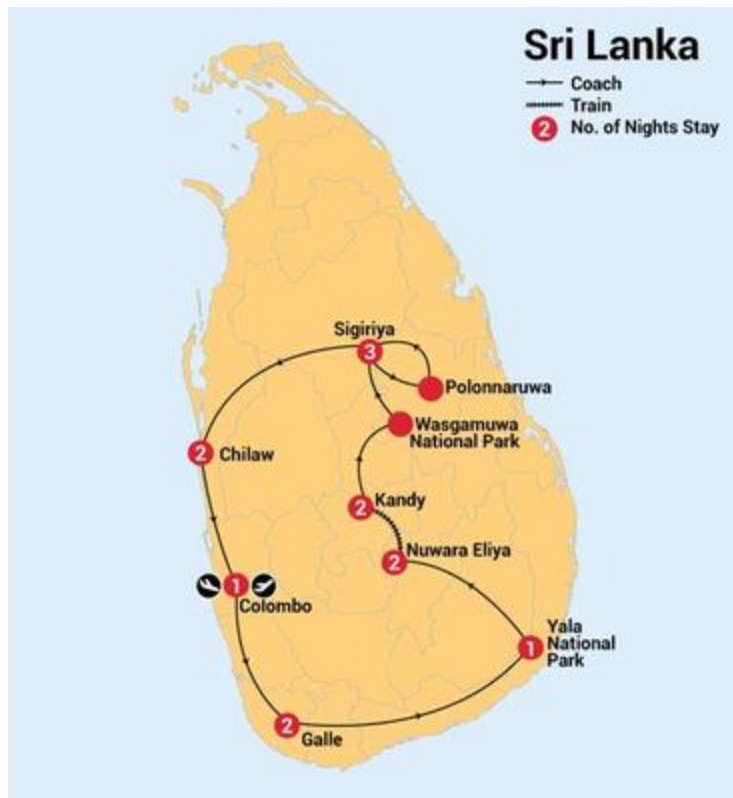
\$2,969^{NZD}

PER PERSON, TWIN SHARE

Sri Lanka is a country that has everything; beautiful beaches, high mountains, tropical forests and nearly as many exotic animals as Africa. UNESCO has recognised no less than eight World Heritage Sites in Sri Lanka making any trip to Sri Lanka unforgettable!

[Book Now](#)

TOUR ITINERARY



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TOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1

Destination	Colombo
Meals included	
Hotel	5 ★ Galle Face Hotel, or similar

A warm welcome awaits you at your hotel in Colombo. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure to explore, before a big day of touring tomorrow.

DAY 2

Destination	Colombo 🚌 Kosgoda 🚌 Galle
Meals included	Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel	5 ★ Amari Galle, or similar

In the morning we'll head out south towards Galle. On the way we will enjoy a brief sightseeing tour of Colombo. Grab a glimpse of the extravagant metropolitan lifestyle of Colombo from the comfort of your bus. The city offers you a beautiful mingle of western and authentic Sri Lankan elements at every corner. Some of the top Colombo attractions you may sight are the Old Parliaments, President's House, Gangaramaya temple, Galle face green, Pettah, Viharamaha Devi park and Independence square.

We then leave for Galle. Enroute, visit a Turtle Hatchery. There are only seven species of marine turtles in the world and five are found in the warm, clear waters off Sri Lanka's coast. The five species are Hawksbill turtle, Loggerhead turtle, Green turtle, Leatherback turtle and the Olive Ridley turtle and so you will get to see the variety of turtle Sri Lanka has to offer. Continuing further south, we visit a small town called Balapitiya where you will take a boat trip on the Madu River and its 64 scattered islands. Cinnamon Island, locally known as "Kurundu Doowa" is one of the islets enthusiasts could visit. On your visit here you will get an informative experience of Cinnamon Production. Sri Lanka is the largest producer of pure cinnamon in the world! Overnight in Galle.

DAY 3

Destination	Galle
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Hotel	5 ★ Amari Galle, or similar

Today set on a tour of the Galle Fort and its Fortifications. This is a city that exudes an essence with a perfect blend of past and present. Declared an UNESCO heritage site in 1988, the presence of Portuguese, Dutch and English is very evident in the fascinating architectural styles of the Galle Fort.

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TOUR ITINERARY

DAY 4

Destination	Galle 🚗 Yala National Park
Meals included	Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel	5 ★ Cinnamon Wild Yala, or similar

In the morning we leave for Yala National Park. On arrival, spend your afternoon on a guided game drive exploring the dynamic wildlife and the most luxuriant plant life in Yala National Park. Being one of the largest parks in Sri Lanka, it is the ideal place to sight the rare leopard!

Please note that Yala National Park closes for a period between the months of September and October. The exact closure dates are made clear closer to the time. The closure is due to the prevailing dry weather prior to this time and taking into consideration the well-being of the wildlife in the reserve. For departure dates that fall over this period, as defined in the departure dates listed below, Yala National park will be replaced with a visit to Udawalawe National Park, while still being able to visit Block 4 or 5 of Yala National Park.

OPTIONAL TOUR - WHALE & DOLPHIN WATCHING SAFARI UNAWATUNA

Set out on an early morning whale and dolphin watching safari. This luxury boat is certified by the Coast Conservation Department in Sri Lanka. The experienced skipper and crew will guide you through Galle and out into Dondra point and Tricomalee Point. Keep your cameras ready as your trips and into Dondra Point, where the views of Sri Lanka , Whales ,Dolpin close-up Mountains and fisheries harbors are unparalleled. Only available 1 November - 1 April.

DAY 5

Destination	Yala National Park 🚗 Nuwara Eliya
Meals included	Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel	5 ★ The Grand Hotel Nuwara Eliya, or similar

This morning, enjoy another safari in the Yala National Park by jeep to spot the diverse wildlife which calls the park home. After, we leave Yala behind us and continue the journey to Nuwara Eliya. Often referred to as 'Little England', this genteel highland community does have a rose-tinted, vaguely British-country-village feel to it, with its colonial-era bungalows. On arrival, check in to your **Inspiring Stay** for the next two nights, the incredible Grand Hotel. It may be the

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21st century, but colonial splendour still reigns in all its past glory at the Grand Hotel. Built in 1891, this was the palatial residence of the former Governor of Sri Lanka, Sir Edward Barnes; today we offer the ultimate in comfort and the best of traditions from the 'good old days' to all who seek the charms of our famed hill country landmark.

Please note: Dress code applies for dinner at all restaurants and bars - All guests are requested to in be smart casual wear. Guests in short trousers and sleeveless Shirts and rubber slippers will not be permitted to enter the restaurants.

Please note: Sections of Yala National Park close due to conservation efforts each year between September and October. The closure dates are advised by the Sri Lankan government 1-2 months prior and differ each year. As Yala National Park is made up of multiple sections, if one section is closed due to conservation works we will visit one of the open sections.

DAY 6

Destination	Nuwara Eliya
Meals included	Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel	5 ★ The Grand Hotel Nuwara Eliya, or similar

Today you will visit a Tea Plantation and Factory. Here you will enjoy the absolute tea experience, taking you to the moment the young tea leaves are plucked from the plantation to being processed in the factory to make a steamy cup of tea. If you are interested, the tea factory is the best place to purchase good quality tea.

This afternoon, enjoy an **Inspiring Taste** at probably the most talked of outlet in Nuwara Eliya, the Grand Tea Lounge. Here we enjoy an iconic High Tea at Grand Hotel.

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TOUR ITINERARY

OPTIONAL TOUR - HORTON PLAINS NATIONAL PARK

Early morning with packed breakfast leave for Horton Plains and Worlds End. This park holds great importance due to the rich and unique biodiversity and being a catchment area feeding some of the main rivers of Sri Lanka. It is also known to be a " Super biodiversity hotspot " and thus declared an UNESCO site in 2010. Couple of kilometers into the park there is a site known as the World's End, an abrupt end, the land plummets straight down 900m, this is just an astonishing view and a somewhat a cool thrill!

Wear strong and comfortable walking shoes, a hat and sunglasses. Bring sunscreen, food and water. The weather can change very quickly on the plains – one minute it can be sunny and clear, the next chilly and misty. Bring a few extra layers of warm clothing.

It is forbidden to leave the paths, which can be slippery and tough to negotiate in places. There are no safety rails available so we recommend this activity for those who are physically fit and go on long walks often. We do not recommend this if you have a difficult time walking along uneven terrain.

Please note - there are 3 different route options, depending on your general level of fitness:

- Route 1 - Approx. 8.5kms
- Route 2 - Approx. 7kms
- Route 3 Approx. 4.5kms

DAY 7

Destination	Nuwara Eliya 🚆 Kandy
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Hotel	5 ★ Earl's Regency, or similar

In the morning leave for Kandy on the famous train journey which is supposed to be one of the most scenic and beautiful journeys in the world. Apart from the breathtaking sceneries of the tea country and picturesque waterfalls, it is a chance for you to mingle with the local people.

Kandy, the Hill Capital (1514 – 1815 AD). Originally known as Senkadagala, the city eventually came to know as Kandy. Kandy was declared an UNESCO heritage site in 1988. The style and character of the Sri Lankan civilization at the time is well articulated in the heart of the city itself, with its lake, the temples including the Temple of the Tooth Relic and the

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TOUR ITINERARY

well preserved ruins of the royal palaces. On arrival in Kandy the afternoon is at leisure.

DAY 8

Destination	Kandy
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Hotel	5 ★ Earl's Regency, or similar

Full day at leisure to relax and explore the city of Kandy. Late afternoon saunter around the Kandy Lake, the atmosphere alone will intrigue you to spend a few moments here. This evening we visit the Temple of Tooth, with its guardian elephants is a deeply significant Buddhist site that contains a tooth of Buddha collected from his funeral pyre and this draws thousands of pilgrims from across the world.

This evening enjoy a typical Sri Lankan Cultural Performance.

DAY 9

Destination	Kandy 🚗 Minneriya National Park 🚗 Sigiriya
Meals included	Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel	5 ★ Sigiriya Jungles, or similar

Today, leave for Sigiriya. Enroute, enjoy a private Jeep Safari at Minneriya National Park. Located in the districts of Matale and Polonnaruwa and bordered by the 'Mahaweli' and 'Amban' rivers, this park stretches an impressive 36,948 hectares. It was declared a National park in 1984, making it the only one in the Central Province. It's a paradise for nature lovers and one of the best places to observe elephants. Continue to Sigiriya for check-in.

Please note: Since elephants are migratory animals, we may visit Wasgamuwa National Park on this day instead, based on the elephant locations.

This evening enjoy an **Inspiring Taste** with some sundowner pre-dinner Arrack (a local cocktail) or something else to suit your tastes with some canapes.

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TOUR ITINERARY

DAY 10

Destination	Sigiriya 🚌 Lion Rock 🚌 Polonnaruwa 🚌 Sigiriya
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Hotel	5 ★ Sigiriya Jungles, or similar

This morning we climb the Sigiriya Rock Fortress (Lion's Rock), one of the most extraordinary artistic complexes of its time (477 – 498 AD). Declared as an UNESCO heritage site in 1982, this magnificent citadel allures artistic and architectural curiosity from around the globe.

For lunch today, take part in an **Inspiring Taste** Cooking Demonstration of Sri Lankan rice and curry preparation (5-6 curries) and enjoy the typical Sri Lankan lunch overlooking the gardens.

This evening enjoy another **Inspiring Taste** with some sundowner pre-dinner Arrack (a local cocktail) or something else to suit your tastes with some canapes.

DAY 11

Destination	Sigiriya
Meals included	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Hotel	5 ★ Sigiriya Jungles, or similar

This morning is at your leisure.

In the afternoon enjoy a sightseeing tour of the Medieval Capital City of Polonnaruwa. This was declared as an UNESCO heritage site in 1982. After the demise of Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa became the middle historic capital of Sri Lanka (1017 – 1235 AD).

OPTIONAL INSPIRING SIGHT - AFTERNOON VISIT TO CHILAW

Afternoon visit to Chilaw Town. You have 2-3 hours here to explore the town at your own pace. Take a stroll through the narrow streets and the marketplace and witness how people do their daily business and this is perfect time to mingle with the locals.

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TOUR ITINERARY

DAY 12

Destination	Sigiriya 🚌 Chilaw
Meals included	Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel	5 ★ Anantaya Resort and Spa Chilaw, or similar

Today we make for the coastal town of Chilaw to finish off our time in Sri Lanka relaxing near the crystal waters of the Indian Ocean. Chilaw is well known for the three 'C's' - Crabs, Coconuts and Coreas.

DAY 13

Destination	Chilaw
Meals included	Breakfast, Dinner
Accommodation	N/A

Spend the day relaxing at the beach or by the pool.
Return to the hotel at 08.30 hrs.

DAY 14

Destination	Chilaw 🚌 Colombo
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

Unfortunately, today marks the end of your incredible tour through Sri Lanka. At the appropriate time, you will be transferred to the Colombo airport to board your flight home.



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TOUR ITINERARY

Inclusions

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 13 nights 5 star accommodation throughout
- Including 2 nights at the incredible Grand Hotel Nuwara Eliya
- Ride the train from Nuwara Eliya to Kandy (subject to availability)
- 13 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 12 dinners including a cooking demonstration
- The services of a professional fully escorted English speaking guide
- In depth sightseeing including all entry fees as per the itinerary
- Dedicated private transportation throughout Sri Lanka

SIGHTSEEING HIGHLIGHTS

- Colombo – Enjoy a sightseeing tour of Colombo, the commercial capital of Sri Lanka
- Kosgoda – Marvel at the five species of marine turtles at this turtle hatchery
- Balapitiya – Take a river cruise on the Madu River
- Galle – Tour the iconic Galle Fort and the old stone fortifications that surround this historic coastal town
- Yala National Park – Embark on guided game drives to discover the dynamic wildlife in this epic national park
- Nuwara Eliya – Embark on a famous scenic train ride through Sri Lanka's tea country
- Nuwara Eliya – Learn about the process behind the region's renowned tea at a tea plantation and factory
- Kandy – Visit the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic, a famous Buddhist site within the royal palace complex of the former Kingdom of Kandy
- Kandy – Enjoy a traditional cultural performance
- Minneriya National Park – Enjoy a thrilling game drive in this paradise for nature lovers, one of the best places to see elephants
- Sigiriya – Climb the magnificent rock fortress of Sigiriya, also known as Lion Rock
- Sigiriya – Visit the ancient city of Polonnaruwa, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Chilaw – Take time to unwind in the relaxing coastal town of Chilaw

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TOUR ITINERARY

INSPIRING FEATURES

Inspiring Tastes

- Visit probably the most talked of outlet in Nuwara Eliya, the Grand Tea Lounge. Here we enjoy an iconic High Tea at the Grand Hotel.
- Participate in a local arrack tasting session, sampling six different types of the country's national drink.

Inspiring Sights

To enhance your journey, we're offering guests 2 bonus sightseeing experiences out of a choice of 3 options (options listed under 'Optional Tours').

1. Local Village Visit in Sigiriya
2. Afternoon visit the Chilaw Town
3. Anavilundawa Wetland

Inspiring Stay

- Enjoy 2 nights at the incredible Grand Hotel in Nuwara Eliya

Fine Print

EXCLUSIONS

- Visas
- Travel insurance (recommended)
- Tipping
- Anything not mentioned in the itinerary
- Optional activities (except Inspiring Sights)
- Personal expenses

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TOUR ITINERARY

HOW TO BOOK & PAYMENTS

Deposit & Payments

- Book now and secure your package with only a \$199 deposit per person.
- Pay a 2nd instalment of \$890 per person within 28 days.
- You will then be invoiced for final payment 90 days prior to departure.

Booking Process

- Select the purple 'Reserve Your Seat' tab to begin your booking (you must 'Sign Up' first by entering your email and creating a password)
- Then select the purple 'Book now' tab of the tour you have selected
- Select your Departure Date, Departure City, Number of Passengers, Room Configuration, any Upgrade Options, and enter any Special Requests
- Click the purple 'Proceed to Secure Checkout' tab
- Enter your credit card or PayPal details to secure your deposit/payment
- Once your order is complete, you will be prompted to complete a Booking Form so that we can fulfil your booking
- Your booking is confirmed once your Booking Form is submitted and you can begin the countdown to your Inspiring Vacation!
- You will then be allocated and contacted by one of our Dedicated Support Agent's (within 48 hours) who will support you right up until you return from your journey

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TOUR ITINERARY

EXTRA SERVICES

You can enhance your holiday by arriving or departing before or after the tour, adding a stopover package en-route or booking a tour extension. On this tour you can choose from the following options:

Pre and post-tour accommodation

- Pre-tour accommodation (Colombo): \$328 per room per night for double/twin/single including breakfast and transfer
- Post-tour accommodation (Chilaw): \$244 per room per night for double/twin/single including breakfast

Arrival and departure airport transfers

- Arrival Transfer (Colombo): \$63 per person
- Departure Transfer (Chilaw): \$63 per person

Please specify in the 'Special Request' field when making your purchase your preferred travel arrangements and if you would like our team to book additional nights' accommodation and/or airport transfers. The additional cost for these land arrangements will be added to your final payment invoice and are subject to availability.

Please note, the transfers are not private and you may be grouped with other Inspiring Vacations customers.



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TOUR ITINERARY

OPTIONAL TOURS

You have the choice of 2 of 3 Inspiring Sights to enhance your journey. You may purchase the additional 3 prior to departure:

- Local Village Visit in Sigiriya (Day 11) - \$50pp
- Afternoon visit the Chilaw Town (Day 12) - \$10pp
- Anavilundawa Wetland (Day 13) - \$10pp

Additionally, you can opt to add the following activities:

- Dolphin and Whale Watching - 1 November to 1 April only (Day 4) - \$105pp
- Horton Plains National Park (Day 6) - \$75pp

Optional tours can be selected once you have finalised your tour purchase and paid your deposit. When completing your Passenger Booking Form, you will be asked if you would like to add Optional Tours, where any applicable cost will be added to your final balance. If you choose not to select them at this time, you can choose to add them later by logging in to your Account online or speaking with your Dedicated Support Agent for assistance.

Please note that you must select your Optional Tours no later than 65 days before departure, after which you will be required to purchase them on tour. Please keep in mind that anything purchased on-tour is subject to availability and prices may vary as you will be paying in local currency.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Fitness Requirements

While the tour itinerary should give you some guidance and overview to the expected requirements, to determine if this tour is right for you we categorise each of our tours in terms of their intensity. These guidelines are to ensure that each tour group is conducted as expected and to ensure the overall satisfaction of all Inspiring Vacations customers.

As a general rule, portorage is not included, therefore at all times you are expected to handle your own luggage where help may not be available.

This particular tour is categorised as a "3":

3 – Moderate Tour: A good level of fitness and mobility is required, as this tour includes a moderate level of physical activity and is considered a medium-fast paced tour. You should be able to walk up and down stairs, get on and off the coach and able to walk reasonable distances of approximately 2 kilometres per day or more with ease. Any physical ailments you

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may have must be disclosed at the time of booking to determine your suitability. If you have any form of walking aids, other than a walking stick or hiking poles, then this tour is not suitable.

Tipping

A friendly reminder that tipping is not included in your package. At the commencement of your tour you will be asked to provide tipping to your guide towards a 'kitty', which is then used towards the guide tipping for the services of helpers, hotel staff, restaurants and airport portage. You will be asked for NZD\$40 per person. Please note that this tipping is not for the guide or driver, merely for the guide to tip the services of other local workers during your tour. While not made compulsory, if you choose not to contribute to the kitty it means that the guide is tipping for these services out of their own pocket. Your cooperation in this instance is most appreciated.

Further, tipping for your guide and driver will be collected at the conclusion of their services. To remove the uncertainty and stress of not knowing how much is appropriate to tip we recommend NZD\$8 per person per day for your guide and NZD\$5 per person per day for your driver to be paid in local currency. The amount you wish to contribute is dependent on the services received and at the complete discretion of the guest. Thank you for your understanding.

Accommodation

The accommodation listed is subject to change. Any changes will be of an equal or higher standard. Bedding configurations (double or twin) are requests only. All efforts will be made to meet your preferences however any changes are beyond our control.

Single Supplement

Single supplement is \$1,488 per person in addition to the twin share price.

Triple Share

Available. If you wish to purchase triple share please phone 0800 475 025. The third person will also be charged the Twin share price.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is required to protect yourself against the unexpected.

Visa & Passport information

It is the traveller's responsibility to ensure they have a valid passport. The passport must be valid for a minimum of six months from the intended date of return.

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You must arrange a Visa before your arrival into Sri Lanka. The best way to apply for your Visa is The Department of Immigration and Emigration called "[Electronic Travel Authorization - ETA](#)" in order to grant prior approval for a visa online for foreign nationals who visit Sri Lanka. You can visit <http://eta.gov.lk/slvisa/> to apply for your visa online.

Please note that these details are subject to change without notice. We recommend visiting <https://safetravel.govt.nz/> for up to date information in terms of entry requirements.

Tour Documentation

Final documentation including e-tickets and hotel details will be provided approximately 30 days prior to travel.

Group Size

2-16 people

Trip Style - Small Group Tour

These tours are our proudest creations. They have been crafted for Inspiring Vacations travellers exclusively, with personal and unique experiences in mind. You will travel with only a maximum of 20 other guests. Enjoy choice features such as hand-picked accommodation, a sampling of the region's best culinary delights and a range of optional activities to choose from to best suit your travel style.

Children

Children must be 5 years old or over and share a room with parents at all times. Children are the same price as adults.

Tour Length

The total length of the tour in days includes time spent in flight and is subject to change depending on the flight schedule, please refer to the day by day itinerary for the time spent on land.

Train Journey (Day 7)

Please note that it is not possible to confirm the train ticket reservation due to the fact that Sri Lanka Railway has a manual system for reservations. Tickets can only be booked 30 days prior to departure. The 1st and 2nd class is basic but has air-conditioning. The non-airconditioned 3rd class sometimes is the only option based availability. On the rare occasion the train is fully booked we'll conduct the route by road.

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YALA NATIONAL PARK

Please note that Yala National Park closes for a period between the months of September and October. The exact closure dates are made clear closer to the time. The closure is due to the prevailing dry weather prior to this time and taking into consideration the well-being of the wildlife in the reserve. For departure dates that fall over this period, as defined in the departure dates listed below, Yala National park will be replaced with a visit to Udawalawe National Park, while still being able to visit Block 4 or 5 of Yala National Park. Please refer to the itinerary.

Although smaller in size to Yala National Park, Udawalawe National Park is considered one of the world's best places to see wild elephants. Largely comprised of grasslands and bush forest, Udawalawe is also one of the best national parks in Sri Lanka for game spotting and being far less crowded than Yala, it makes for a more enjoyable experience for travellers and therefore, we believe is a more than suitable alternative for one safari day. You will still be able to visit Block 4 or 5 of Yala National Park, so you are able to experience both.

Affected dates:

2nd SEP 2019
28th SEP 2019
30th SEP 2019
14th OCT 2019

BOOK WITH CONFIDENCE

Inspiring Vacations has been globally recognised and awarded for its handling of COVID-19 during the pandemic. The safety and wellbeing of our guests is our highest concern during this time of uncertainty, and we are continuously monitoring the evolving COVID-19 situation.

We have adopted the advice of the WHO to ensure all customers can travel with the knowledge of how to travel safely and with confidence.

Australian owned and operated with 100% Australian Customer Service support

We are proudly 100% Australian owned and operated, with our head office located in Melbourne, Victoria. When you make your booking, you will receive dedicated and ongoing support from our team of travel professionals throughout your booking, up until you are due to depart.

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Flexible Date Change Option

Book now, change later with our Flexible Date Change option. You may select this \$99pp option at time of purchase, giving travellers the flexibility to change your date without penalty (subject to availability, less third party costs incurred, plus any applicable surcharges for the new date selected).

Date change must be requested prior to 65 days before your original selected departure date*. Once inside 65 days of departure, date changes are not permitted.

*some packages may have a varied period in which you can request a date change due to limitations with the third-party provider.

Please refer to our 'Book with Confidence' section for terms and conditions.

The Flexible Date Change option does not cover cost incurred for components not fulfilled by Inspiring Vacations or in the event extra services have been booked with Inspiring Vacations outside of the standard package, including but not limited to airfares, pre/post accommodation or insurance.

Cooling off period

If you change your mind within 7 days of making your booking online, you can request a refund of your initial deposit payment as part of our cooling off period.

Once your purchase date falls outside of the 7 day period, our standard terms and conditions will apply. Please ensure that any request to cancel your booking is received via email to support@inspiringvacations.com, including the reason for cancellation.