



AIAA & AMAZING DESTINATIONS PRESENTS
INDIA & SRI LANKA ODYSSEY
\$6,395/- P.P Twin India & Sri Lanka
\$5,695/- P.P Twin India Only
\$2,995/- P.P Twin Sri Lanka Only

Package includes: Flights, 4 & 5 Star Hotels, Houseboat, Meals, Sightseeing Tours, Transfers & Guide

Enjoy an in-depth exploration of South India's many wonders during this 18-day journey of discovery along with the visit of the seven wonders Taj Mahal and historical forts. Rich in colonial history and flush with spectacular scenery, this itinerary is the ideal way to see the whole of this incredible region.

India's beautiful south remains a feast for the senses with all the right ingredients for a wonderful trip, fragrant cuisines, friendly people, and fascinating cultures. It's an India that will stay in your heart forever.



DAY 1: 23 SEP 2024: MELBOURNE/COLOMBO/MADRAS SRILAKAN AIRLINES

Depart Melbourne by flight UL605 at 1725 and arrive in Colombo at 2220 hrs. Connect to flight UL125 at 0040 hrs to Madras.

DAY 2: 24 SEP 2024: MADRAS SIGHTSEEING TOUR



Arrive Madras at 0200 hrs. On arrival you will be met by our Representative and transferred to your Hotel.

The British turned a strip of local village into India's major southern city, leaving an eclectic blend of architecture and a fine example of Indo-Saracenic Victorian construction which they called Madras (Chennai).



Your day will start with a visit to the city's highlights including the San Thomas Cathedral, where the remains of St. Thomas are said to be housed, later visit National Art Gallery & Museum the collection of 9th-12th century Chola bronzes exemplify this legacy. Also visit Fort St. George, the

oldest European Fort of India. Enjoy a leisurely evening stroll on Marina Beach. **Overnight at Hotel JP Meals: Breakfast and dinner**

DAY 3: 25 SEP 2024: MADRAS – MAHABALIPURAM – VELANKANNI BY COACH



Journey through the 'rice bowl' of Tamil Nadu and on to Velankanni.

En route to Velankanni stop at Mahabalipuram to explore the spectacular World Heritage-listed Shore Temples. **Overnight: Hotel MGM Velankanni Meals: Breakfast and dinner**

DAY 4: 26 SEP 2024: VALENKANNI – TRICHY – COCHIN 3 HOURS BY ROAD/OVERNIGHT TRAIN



Your day will start with the visit of the church Shrine Basilica erected in the year 1962 by Pope John XXIII, this popular shrine in Velankanni is devoted to Lady of Health, followed with a visit the priest residence and Shrine Mega Mahal. Later we take a 3 hours road trip to Tiruchirapalli to take overnight train to Cochin. Train departs at 8pm to arrive Cochin at 6.30 am. **Overnight: On Board Train Meals: Breakfast**



On arrival in Cochin, you will be transferred to a Restaurant for breakfast and then your Hotel for check-in. As it may still be early morning, you may have to wait for a couple of hours before your rooms become available. Cochin, has been a trading port since Roman times when it was on the main trade route between Europe and China and is still orientated around the bay whose neck is lined with the enormous cantilevered cheenavalas (Chinese fishing nets). The town has had a Jewish community since at least the 6th century and has been occupied by the Portuguese, Dutch and British before independence.

In the afternoon, enjoy a Kathakali dance performance, a stylized classical Indian originated in 17th-century and is noted for the attractive make-up of characters, elaborate costumes, detailed gestures and well-defined body movements presented in tune with the anchor playback music and complementary percussion. Overnight: Crowne Plaza Hotel. Meals: Breakfast & Dinner



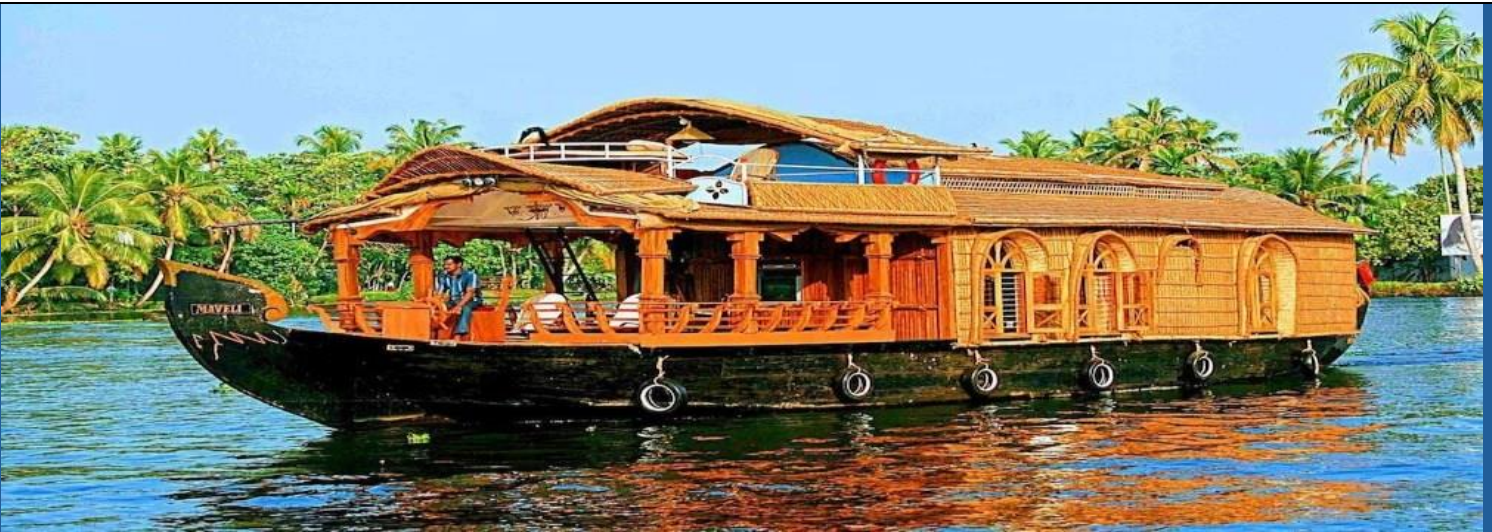
DAY 6: 28 SEP 2024: COCHIN CITY TOUR



Visit the harbour and watch the local fishermen expertly handling the Chinese fishing nets. Discover the different colonial influences during your tour of Fort Cochin; visit Mattancherry Palace, Jew Town, and the Synagogue. **Overnight: Crowne Plaza Hotel Meals: Breakfast and Dinner**

DAY 7: 29 SEP 2024: COCHIN – ALLEPPEY

BY ROAD



Begin your journey to Alleppey to board your houseboat, a sleepy little village tucked away from the hustle and bustle of city life.

A lovely amalgamation of mangroves, paddy fields, coconut clusters, a network of criss-cross canals, rivers and natural water bodies – all this makes Alleppey a destination of distinction and character, indeed something very special. The vibrant community life on its banks, the flora and fauna, the indigenous methods of fishing, the handmade country boats which are works of art, the coir fibre production and finally the locally-sourced, delicious cuisine adds to the uniqueness of Kerala's backwaters. Explore the beauty of backwaters and the laid-back world of Kerala and let your cares drift away as you soak up the setting sun while sipping your tea. **Overnight: Alleppey Houseboat Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

DAY 8 : 30 SEP 2024: ALLEPPEY – BANGALORE

BY FLIGHT

After breakfast you will be transferred to Cochin Airport for your flight to Bangalore. Cosmopolitan Bangalore is one of India's most progressive and developed city, blessed with a benevolent climate. On arrival you will be transferred to your Hotel. Evening visit the famed Commercial Street for shopping and then you will be taken to a Muslim Family Home for traditional homecooked dinner consisting of Biryani, Phal, Shami Kebabs, Dall & lots of more. **Overnight: JP Cosmos Hotel. Meals: Breakfast & Dinner**





After breakfast we do a full day tour of Bangalore & Mysore city. Start your day with a visit to St. Mary's Basilica, St. John's Church, Vidhana Soudha, Tipu Sultan's Summer Palace and we then continue to Mysore which is a 3 hours drive. On the way we stop at Srirangapatnam to visit the shrine of Tipu Sultan & Fort and continue to Mysore. In Mysore we visit the world famous Mysore Palace of the Wodayar family. We then visit Chamundeshwari Temple, take a walk through Lalitha Mahal Palace. And if you are interested in shopping, you could check the shops in Krishnaraja Market or Mysore Silk Emporium also make sure to buy some mouthwatering Mysore Pak and have some crispy Dosa's. Return back to Bangalore. **Overnight: JP Cosmos**



Hotel Meals: Breakfast and dinner





Fly to Goa, swaying palms, white sands and sparkling waters, Goa's balmy shores are plentiful in this tiny, glorious slice of India hugging the country's western coastline and bounded by the Arabian Sea. **Overnight: Colonia Santa Maria Meals: Breakfast & Dinner**

DAY 11: 03 OCT 2024: GOA SIGHTSEEING TOUR



Today we will visit Basilica of Bom Jesus the oldest church in Goa, it holds the remains of St. Francis Xavier, a special friend of St. Ignatius Loyola with whom he founded the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). Visit the Fort Aguada, the Portuguese fort that was built in the 17th century. We will also explore the local markets & stroll the beaches of Goa. **Overnight: Colonia Santa Maria Meals: Breakfast & Dinner**

DAY 12: 04 OCT 2024: GOA – JAIPUR

BY FLIGHT

After breakfast we fly to Jaipur, the enthralling, historical Jaipur (also known as the "Pink City"), Rajasthan's capital and gateway to India's most flamboyant state. **Overnight: Radisson Jaipur City Center Meals: Breakfast and dinner**

DAY 13: 05 OCT 2024: JAIPUR SIGHTSEEING TOUR



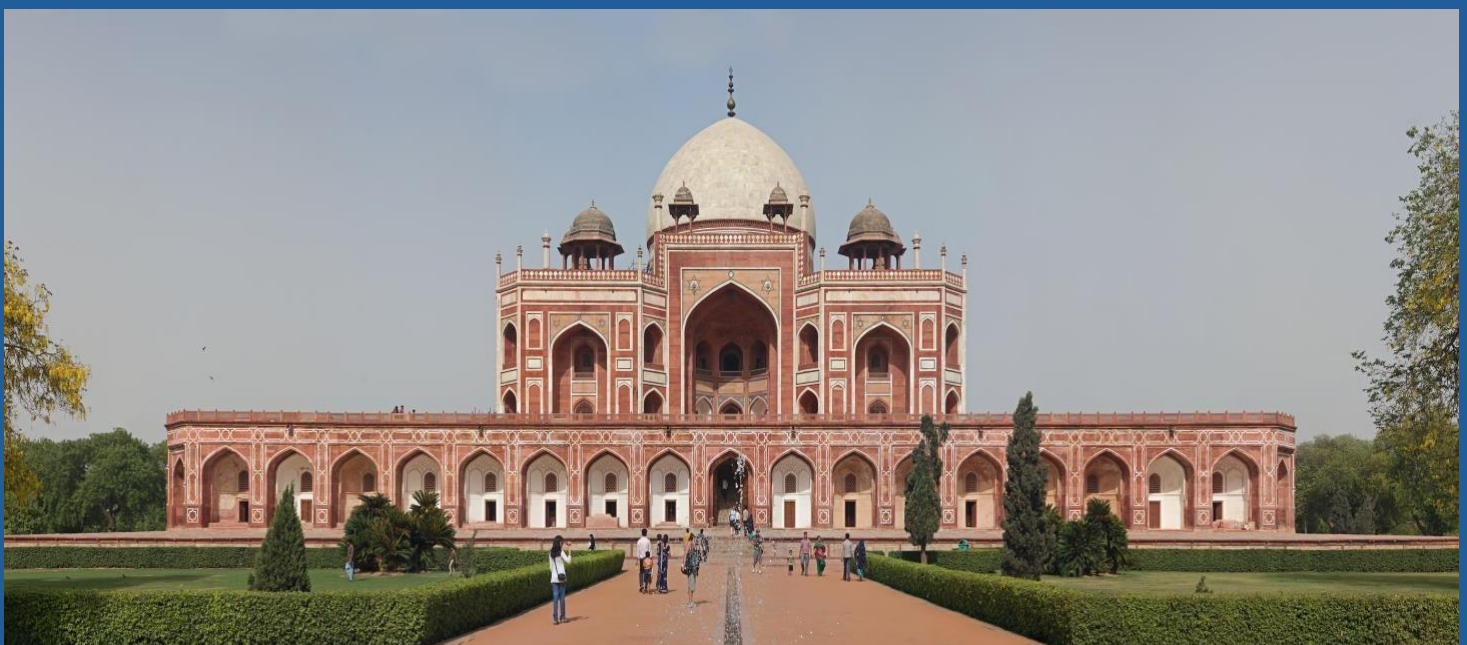
Your exploring of Jaipur, one of India's most charming and colorful cities, includes a visit to the classically romantic Amber Fort, a stop at the Hawa Mahal (Palace of the Winds), Jantar Mantar Observatory, and a visit to the City Palace, which is still home of the Jaipur royal family.

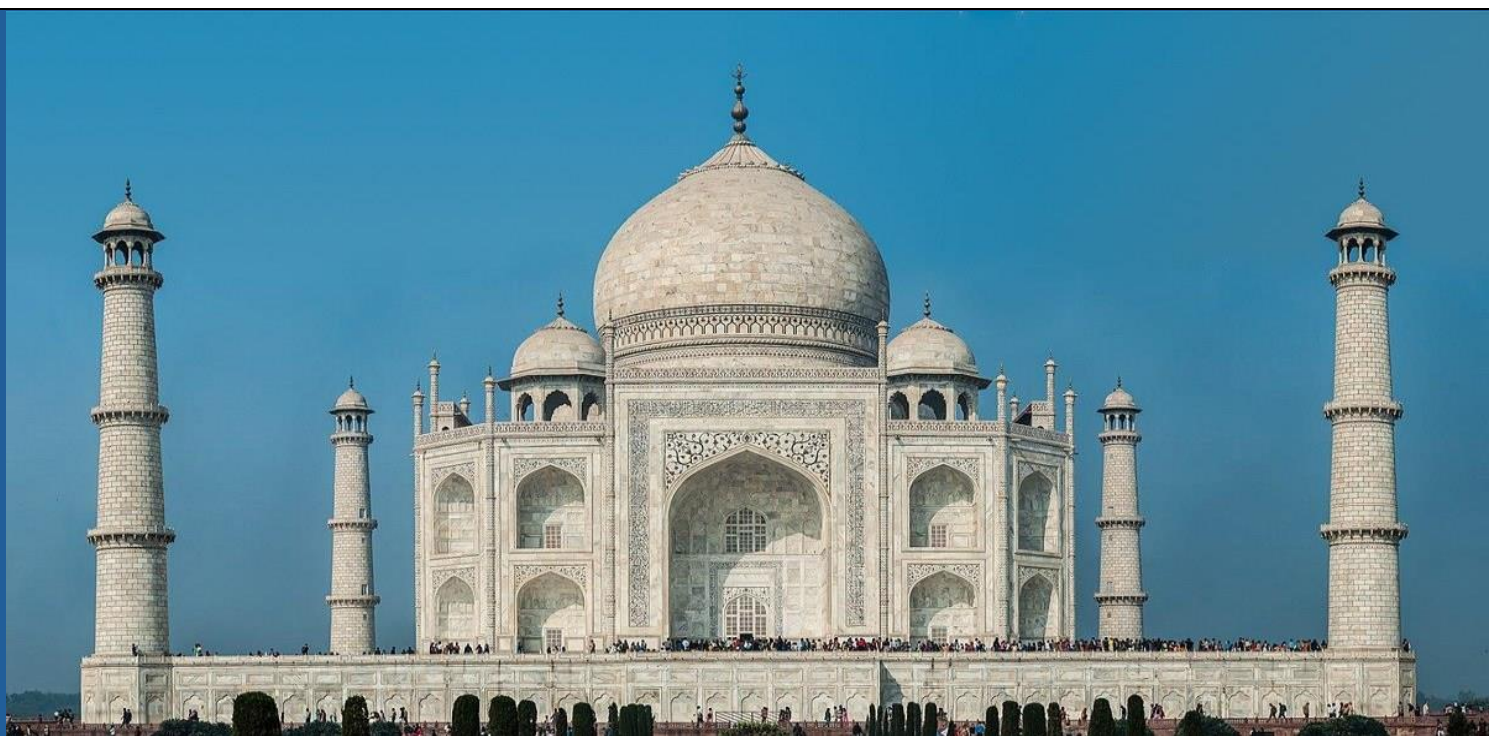
Overnight: Radisson Jaipur City Center Meals: Breakfast and dinner

DAY 14: 06 OCT 2024: JAIPUR - AGRA BY ROAD

You will continue today the drive to Agra, the home of one of the Seven Wonders of the World, the immortal Taj Mahal, which was built in 1653 by the Mughal Emperor, Shah Jahan, as a monument of love to his wife, Mumtaz Mahal.

En-route you will stop at Fatehpur Sikri, an enigmatic deserted Mughal city now a UNESCO. *(Optional):* Stop at Sheroes café, run and managed by women who have survived an acid attack. Enjoy a cup of coffee with these brave ladies who are proud of their undying spirit. **Overnight: Double Tree by Hilton Breakfast and dinner**

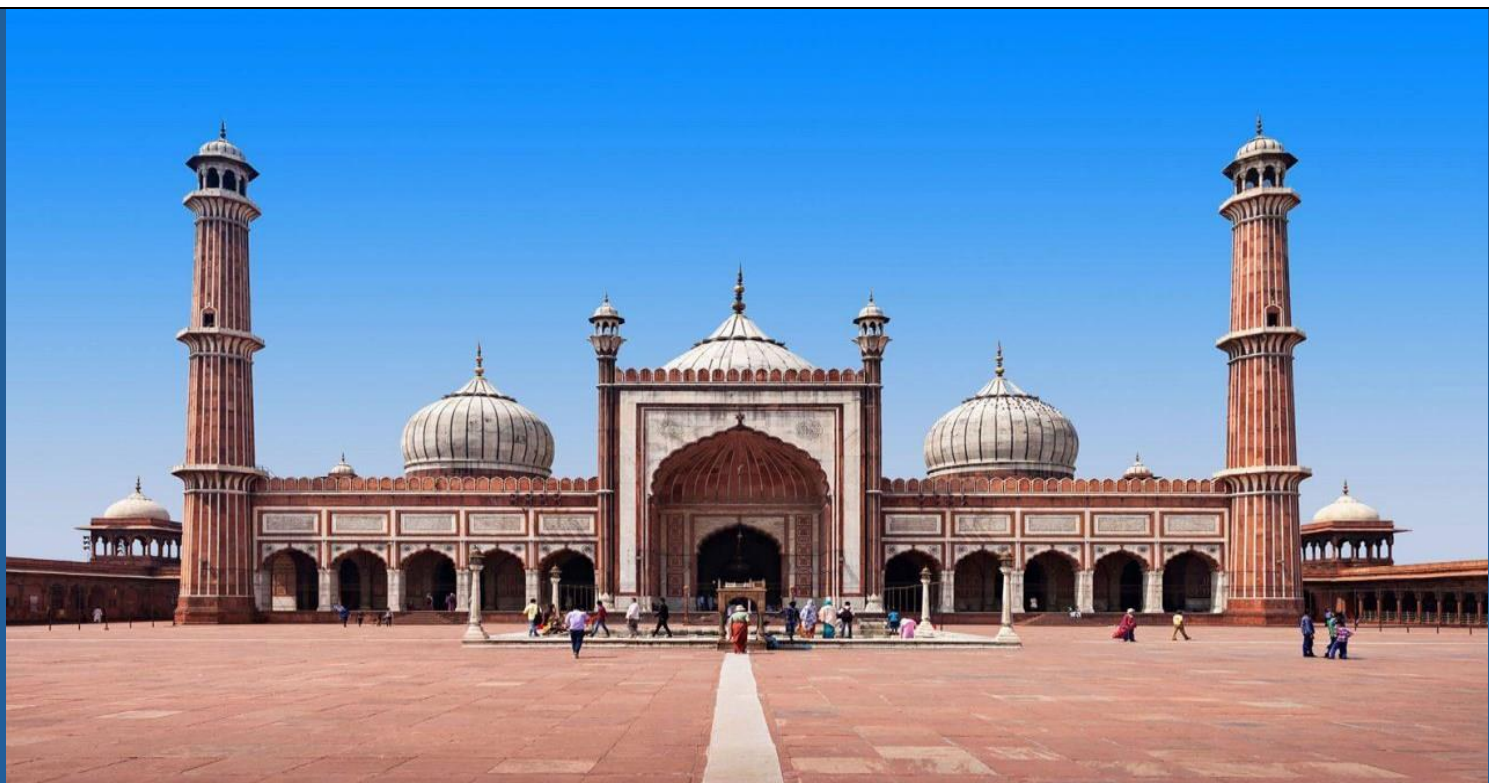




Rise early to see the Taj Mahal at sunrise, its glowing surface suffused in a gentle morning mist, the rising sun lending a warm pink tint to its marble face. The “Crown of Monuments”, the incomparable Taj Mahal, was designed to represent eternal paradise.

Post check out to your hotel, visit the Agra Fort, a 16th century Mughal monument and UNESCO World Heritage Site, an imposing sandstone citadel on the banks of the River Yamuna, which became the prison of Mughal emperor Shah Jahan. Drive to Delhi, stepping into the streets of this treasure-trove city, we will feel as if we have taken a journey back in time, with remnants of lost empires on almost every corner. From flower markets to sari-clad women, all the nuances of India are on show in Delhi. **Overnight: The Suryaa Hotel Meals: Breakfast and dinner**

DAY 16: 08 OCT 2024: DELHI SIGHTSEEING TOUR



Today your adventure begins with visit of Humayun's Tomb, built in the 16th century and considered the architectural forerunner of Agra's Taj Mahal.

Visit the famed Sikh temple 'Gurudwara Bangla Sahib', you can observe the steady flow of devotees walking barefoot on the white marble floors of this spiritual abode. Make a stop at the community kitchen where food for over 10000 people is prepared each day, the greatest service to humanity! Continue to discover Delhi with a visit to Gandhi Smriti, a memorial and museum dedicated to Mahatma Gandhi, where he spent the last few months of his life, as well as seeing other exciting sights, monuments and exploring the wonderful shopping of Khan Market.

Evening will explore the intricate, bustling streets of Old Delhi, visit the Jama Masjid Mosque, one of Asia's largest mosques followed by dinner at Karim's. **Overnight: The Suryaa Hotel Meals: Breakfast and dinner**



DAY 17: 09 OCT 2024: DELHI – COLOMBO

BY FLIGHT



Today after breakfast we transfer to the Airport to take flight to Colombo. On arrival you will be transferred to your Hotel in Negambo. **Overnight: Amagi Aria Hotel Meals: Breakfast & Dinner**

DAY 18: 10 OCT 2024: NEGAMBO – PINNAWELA ELEPHANT ORPHANAGE – DAMBULLA



After breakfast proceed to **Dambulla** (177km/4h15m). Enroute visit **Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage**.

Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage (Duration of visit: approx 1 – 1 ½ Hours)

Features one of the biggest herds of captive elephants in the world. The Pinnawela herd today numbers nearly 71 and is easily one of the most popular tourist attractions in Sri Lanka. The main attraction at Pinnawela is watching the elephants walking down to the river twice a day to have their bath. Feeding time for baby elephants is also a very popular time at the orphanage. Evening at leisure. **Overnight: Amaya Lake Meals: Breakfast & Dinner**

DAY 19: 11 OCT 2024: DAMBULLA/POLONNARUWA/DAMBULLA



Polonnaruwa Ancient Kingdom (Duration of visit: approx 2 – 2 ½ Hours)

It would take you a while to fathom that such a city ever existed many years ago and after you return to your true senses the journey through this colossal city would be nothing less than magical. Polonnaruwa is Sri Lanka's second oldest kingdom and features a plethora of ruins and places of religious worship. Some of the many interesting places to visit in Polonnaruwa include the Gal Viharaya (Stone temple), Lankathilake, Tivanka Image House, Nissanka Latha Mandapaya, the Audience Hall and the Vatadage.

Afternoon at leisure.

Optionally: Engage in a safari at **Minneriya National Park (US \$55.00 per person)**

Minneriya National Park (Duration of visit: approx 3 ½ – 4 Hours)

The extent of the Minneriya national park is approximately 8889 hectares. Dry zone plant and Animal Species are common. The elephant is a highlight of the park. Approximately 160 species of birds, 9 amphibians, 25 reptile species, 26 fish species, and more than 78 butterfly species can also be found here. There are also rare bamboo trees in this park which is unique to Minneriya national park. **Overnight: Amaya Lake Meals: Breakfast & Dinner**



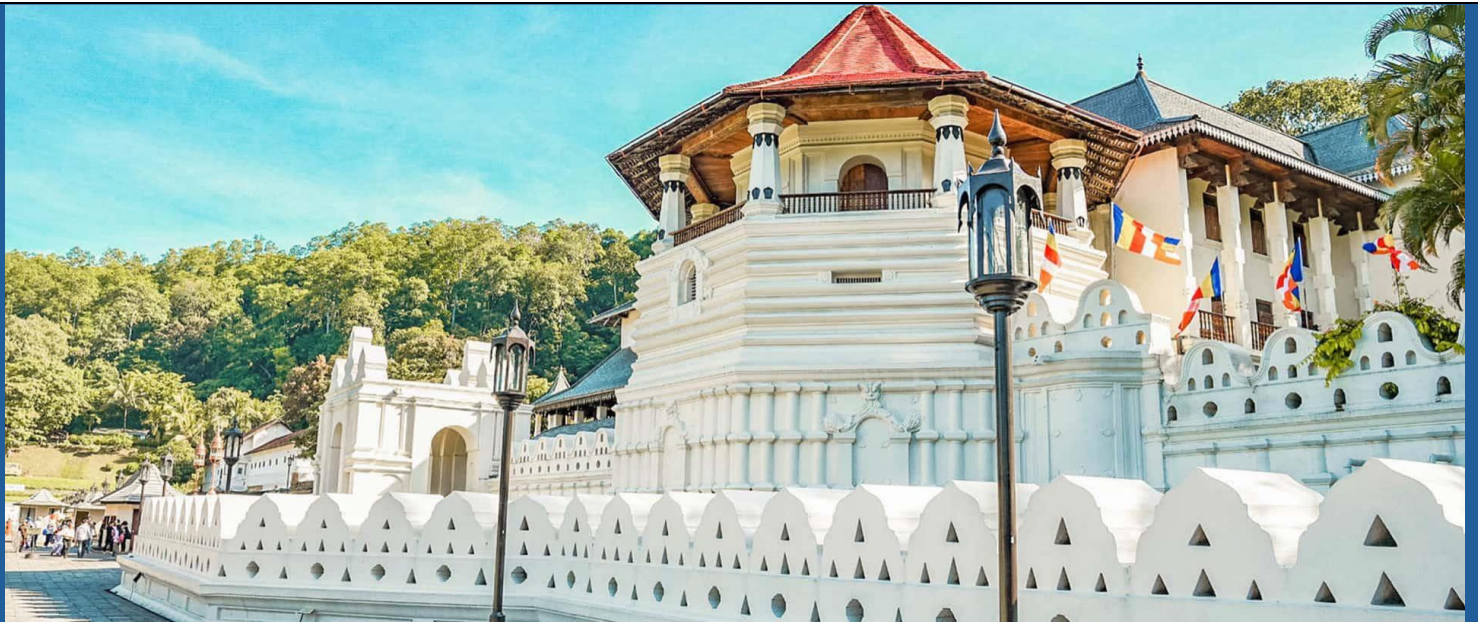
Sigiriya Rock Fortress (Duration of visit : approx 3 – 3 ½ Hours) – US \$ 30.00 per person (Direct Payment by client)

Sigiriya Located a few hours' drive from Colombo, Sigiriya is a magnificent rock fortress built in the 5th century A.D. This majestic Citadel in the sky was the refuge of King Kasyapa and is world-renowned for its 'Mirror Wall', which consists of poems and paragraphs carved by some of the thousands of visitors who visited the rock many years ago, and for its magnificent frescoes, similar to the Ajantha frescoes of India.

Thereafter proceed to Kandy and en route visit the **Muthu Mariamman Kovil** and the **Matale Spice Garden**. (74km/2h30m)



DAY 21: 13 OCT 2024: KANDY



Afternoon engages in a city tour of **Kandy**.

Kandy Temple and City (Duration of visit : approx 1 ½ – 2 Hours)

The Sri Dalada Maligawa or the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic is a temple in the city of Kandy in Sri Lanka. It was built within the royal palace complex which houses the only surviving relic of Buddha, a tooth, which is venerated by Buddhists. The relic has played an important role in local politics since ancient times. It's believed that whoever holds the relic holds the governance of the country, which caused the ancient kings to protect it with great effort. Kandy was the capital of the Sinhalese Kings from 1592 to 1815, fortified by the terrain of the mountains and the difficult approach. The city is a world heritage site declared by UNESCO, partly due to the temple.

Evening engage in **Cultural Show.Overnight: Tourmaline Kandy Meals: Breakfast & Dinner**

DAY 22: 14 OCT 2024: KANDY – NUWARA ELIYA



After breakfast an option visit to Peradeniyha Botanical Garden. **Royal Botanical Gardens (Duration of visit : approx 1 ½ – 2 Hours) – US \$ 10.00 per person (Direct payment by client)**

The history of the Royal Botanical Gardens dates as far back as 1371 when King Wickramabahu III

ascended the throne and kept court at Peradeniya near Mahaweli Ganga. Later, in the reign of King Kirti Sri Rajasinghe from 1747 to 1780 this was made a Royal Garden and from 1780 – 1798 King Rajadhi Rajasinghe resided therein, where a temporary residence was erected for him.

Thereafter board the train from Kandy (11.10hrs) to Nanu Oya (14.31hrs). The mystical train ride



from Kandy to Nuwara Eliya is on 2nd class reserved seating.

The train journey from Kandy to Nanu Oya in Sri Lanka is widely regarded as one of the most extraordinary and visually stunning experiences. Spanning approximately 25 kilometers (15.5 miles), this scenic route traverses the captivating landscapes of Sri Lanka's hill country. As the train ascends gradually into the mountains, passengers are treated to breathtaking panoramic vistas of verdant tea plantations, ethereal valleys veiled in mist, captivating waterfalls, and dense forests teeming with life.

Securing 2nd class tickets for train rides in Sri Lanka is subject to availability, with a 75% probability of success because of our connections. These tickets are sold by the Railway department 30 days before the journey, in limited quantities. If 2nd class tickets are unavailable, you can opt to travel in 3rd class without seat reservations, which may require standing during the journey. Alternatively, you have the option to travel by tour vehicle instead of taking the train. It's important to note that while rare, delays and cancellations can occur in the Sri Lankan train system without prior notice.

Evening engage in a city tour of **Nuwara Eliya**

Nuwara Eliya City (Duration of visit: approx 40 mins)

Nuwara Eliya also known as 'Little' England', was the favorite hill station of the British who tried to create Nuwara Eliya into a typical English Village. The old brick Post office, country house like hill club, with its hunting pictures, mounted hunting trophies and fish, and its strict formal dinner attire; the 18-hole golf course, racecourse, etc., all remind you of 'England.' **Overnight: Galway Heights Hotel Meals: Breakfast & Dinner**

DAY 23: 15 OCT 2024: NUWARA ELIYA – GALLE – BENTOTA



After Breakfast proceed to Galle and engage in a Galle City Tour. (253km/5h45m)

Galle (Duration of visit : approx 1 ½ – 2 Hours)

Galle is a town situated on the southwestern tip of Sri Lanka, 119 km (74 mi) from Colombo. Galle was known as Gimhathiththa (although Ibn Batuta in the 14th century refers to it as Qali) before the arrival of the Portuguese in the 16th century, when it was the main port on the island. Galle reached the height of its development in the 18th century, before the arrival of the British, who developed the harbor at Colombo. Thereafter proceed to Bentota for the beach stay. (71km/1h30). **Overnight: Ekho Hotel Meals: Breakfast & Dinner**

DAY 24: 16 OCT 2024: BENTOTA



After breakfast at leisure. **Overnight: Hotel Ekho Meals: Breakfast & Dinner**

DAY 24: 17 OCT 2024: BENTOTA – COLOMBO AIRPORT

After breakfast proceeds Airport (110 km/2h). Depart by Sri Lankan Airlines to Melbourne (flight times to be advised)

Package includes:

- ◆ International & Domestic Airfares
- ◆ Taxes & Fuel Surcharges
- ◆ Accommodation for as indicated above in 3 & 4 Star Hotels
- ◆ Meals as indicated in the above tour program
- ◆ Dinner with a local Muslim family in Bangalore
- ◆ Dinner at Karim in Delhi
- ◆ All transfers and tours in Air Condition Coach
- ◆ Local Experienced English-speaking guide during the city tours
- ◆ Monument entrance fees as per the itinerary
- ◆ Bottled water during sightseeing and excursions

Package does not include:

- ◆ Early check-in or late check-out at hotels
- ◆ Tips to porters and hotel staff
- ◆ Meals not mentioned in “Cost Includes”
- ◆ Camera/video permits where required
- ◆ Personal expenses, including alcohol
- ◆ Indian Visa (see below)
- ◆ Travel Insurance (see below)

Terms and Conditions:

- ◆ Tour operates with minimum of 25 people.
- ◆ Hotel check-in 14:00 / check-out 12:00
- ◆ All hotels and restaurants are subject to availability at the time of booking.

Indian VISA:

You are responsible for obtaining a valid visa for India. The Indian Government now allows Australian passport holders to apply for a simple tourist visa online (<http://www.indianvisaonline.gov.in>) without having to send in their passports. This electronic visa is valid for one stay of up to 30 days. Visas can also be obtained at a local embassy or consulate before arriving in India.

Please ensure that your passport is valid for at least 6 months after the date of entry and has at least two blank pages for stamping by the Immigration Officer.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:

- **To book this tour, please email your passport copy to Enquiry@amazingdestinations.com.au or WhattApp to +61 430 06 46 00**
- ***This tour price is based on a minimum of 25 persons travelling as a group.***
- **A deposit of \$2,500 per person is required by 1st Feb 2024 & balance payable in easy monthly instalments**
- **Payment to be made to Rodney at Anglo-Indian Australasian Association or to Amazing Destinations Pty Ltd., by Net Banking or Direct Deposit. Account details are below:**

ACCOUNT NAME: AMAZING DESTINATIONS PTY LTD.

BANK NAME: NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK

BSB: 083 028

A/C NO: 796318152

Terms & Conditions:

Indian visa need to be obtained before departure from Australia. Amazing Destinations with guide you through the process. 2. Valid for Australian Passports only and Passport should be valid for minimum 6 months from the date of return. 3. Names advised should match Passport names as the same will be used to issue your flight tickets. 4. Travel insurance is highly recommended and all insurance claims if any should be made directly with the Insurance Company. 5. Payment is by cash, cheque, or direct deposit only. Surcharge of 1.5% for Master & Visa & 3.3% for Amex. apply if paying by credit card. 6. Changes fee applies for any changes or amendments to booking. 7. A minimum cancellation charge of \$500 per person plus any charges imposed by the Airline, Hotels and other ground operators will be applied if reservation is cancelled. 8. Photos shown above are for illustration purpose only. 9. All bookings are subject to our & the Tour Operators terms & conditions.

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***Conditions Apply**