



WARM AND
WELCOMING



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*EVERYONE FEELS THE MAGIC OF
SRI LANKA DIFFERENTLY.*

Some adore the everyday adventures,
The flavours, the infinite sunsets, the constant state
of celebration.
Others are dazzled by the way every moment has the
makings of a memory.
But most, are forever drawn to the way Earth's
favorite island calls to you always, to come home,
and be inspired, every day.

To a place that's so thrilling

So wild
So pristine
So spiritual
So loving
So delicious
So singularly magical
So fierce
So bold
So unforgettable

However you choose to express it,
what you're feeling is

SO SRI LANKA

When you need less than a day to travel from one end to the other and yet, you're able to dabble in at least 25 different activities that will make you go wow, you know you've come to the right place. When you have a past so powerful, yet so exciting with the most vibrant culture that makes falling in love as easy as riding a bike. When you can dive into an ocean full of life, catch the freshness spraying off a waterfall hitting the rocks, and hear the birds singing as they build their homes. When every day is a summer romance with sunrise breakfasts and perfect road-trips straight out of a movie. When you can wake up with the elephants, play hide and seek with the leopards and close your eyes under a sky full of stars. When you can smell the bold spices cooking in different combinations from every household with their age-old recipes that are treasured to-date. When you feel like everyone around you is family and you've run out of words to express how you feel deep inside, and your heart races and feels warm at the same time, you just know you've fallen in love with it all.

Then that is indefinitely, So Sri Lanka!





MAJESTIC
AND GRAND
SRI LANKA

Spot the highest density of leopards in the world at the Yala National Park

Experience life at sea with the whales and dolphins at Mirissa, and five out of the seven sea turtles species.

Witness Asia's largest gathering of wild elephants at Minneriya National Park

Catch sight of the most adorned creature on earth, the Peacock one of the largest of the pheasants native to Sri Lanka.

Explore the Sinharaja Forest Reserve, the 7th UNESCO World Heritage Site.

They say the smaller the creature, the bolder the spirit. As every creature was created to serve a purpose in life, we are witnesses to the magnificent ways in which they lead their lives teaching us lessons of a lifetime. Open your eyes to the wild and you will be enlightened of their glorious presence in this land.

Sri Lanka is their home too. They roam the forests, mountains, rivers and oceans; just as they were meant to. Sometimes we cross paths with them, we share a moment; a connection that taps into the depths of our hearts where we are all the same – living, breathing and co-existing in the same land. We invite you to take a peek into their lives and be amazed in every way possible; as they are a part of Sri Lanka's heart and soul.

Hailing from the time of the Kandyan Kingdom in the hill ridges of Kandy, we have the Udawattakelle Sanctuary. Deep-rooted conservation ethics and respect for all living things preserved this sanctuary as the world's oldest wilderness protected area. With its extensive plant species, reptiles and small & medium sized mammals, this sanctuary was indeed a 'garden' above the Royal Palace that is still as attractive as it was back then.

The best way to catch a glimpse of wildlife and nature is from the country's National Parks; home to 92 types of mammals (16 endemic) such as the elephant, leopard, sloth bear, sambur, spotted deer, mouse and barking deer, porcupine, ant-eater, civet cat, giant squirrel, and monkeys; macaque, purple-faced leaf monkey and grey langur.



9 *The brightest coloured peacocks, only at Yala National Park*



Say hello to the friendliest sambar at Horton Place



With 12 National Parks and 52 Sanctuaries that account for 12% of Sri Lanka's land area, Sri Lanka is truly a startling multiplicity of physical features and wildlife. Regardless of what your interests may be, book a tour around our National Parks and witness a variety of wildlife from one part of the country to the other.

Each Park around the country is famous for various types of wildlife. Yala National Park, the second largest in Sri Lanka, is believed to have the world's highest concentration of leopards. If you're lucky, you'll catch one or two sprawled over a tree or observing their prey from afar - just until it's time to pounce and attack. When you feel like you want to see the majestic elephants, Udawalawe National Park and Minneriya National Park are the places to be, with the latter boasting of the famed 'gathering' by the water during the dry season. Watch baby elephants splash water at each other as their mothers and grandmothers observe them closely. The spirit of family is truly visible in these herds as they protect their own no matter what.



When you've seen all there is to see on land, head over to the ocean brimming with life, both big and small. Sri Lanka is considered one of the best places for whale and dolphin watching. Blue whales, sperm whales, killer whales, pilot whales and dolphins, are often spotted in Mirissa on the South Coast, Kalpitiya on the North West Coast and Trincomalee on the East Coast. Watch the seas come alive with these creatures, living deep under the Indian Ocean.

Another marvellous feeling is witnessing five of the seven turtle species that frequent the North-West Coasts and carrying the baby turtles to set them free on the shore; a valuable experience you will ever have.

With over 233 bird species (33 endemic), 171 reptile species, 244 butterfly species and 120 dragonfly species Sri Lanka is truly a wealthy home for the wild.





S DARING AND
ADVENTUROUS
SRI LANKA

Catch the next big wave at the surfing capital in the world – Arugam Bay.

Jump into adventure with electrifying white water rafting at Kitulgala.

Get the most wondrous aerial views on Hot Air Balloon rides in Dambulla.

Trek across Horton Plains, at an altitude of 2,134m.

Hike across Knuckles mountain range, hidden deep in the island.

Whether you want to go scuba-diving in the ocean or trek across the midlands, you can do it all right here, where you are offered a variety of adventure thrills from exhilarating sports to relaxing activities in every part of the country.

An adventure enthusiast's haven, Sri Lanka is the perfect year-round location for all your quests with the best topography and climate.

One of the most exciting ways to discover spectacular scenery down a mighty river is through white water rafting. Experience killer falls and chilling rapids over frothy-white icy waters in Kitulgala, Sitawaka Ganga and Kotmale Ganga. With two monsoons a year, these are the wettest parts of the country.

Dial up adrenaline when you ride the mighty rivers and cool off with a leap from the rocks into the freshest water you will find. With a 103 rivers, lagoons, reservoirs, swamps and ancient canals - the perfect rafting, canoe and kayak trips await the curious you.

If you relish the adrenaline rush when you're in the water, we've got a lot more to offer. The gentle swell of the Indian Ocean provides excellent opportunities for surfing, diving, jet skiing, sailing and numerous other water sports. Arugam Bay on the East Coast is a popular surf destination bringing in many pro-surfers from all parts of the world.

Mirissa and Matara on the South Coast are also good waves to catch as well as being hosts to a vibrant and active nightlife, with beach parties that go on from dusk till dawn. With golden sandy stretches meeting the shoreline, the seaside activities are for everyone, both young and old.

For the underwater explorer in you, Sri Lanka is also proud bearers of wide coral reef and vibrant aquamarine life, for a rewarding glimpse of the other side of life. Diving and snorkelling are most popular in many Southern Coastal areas, with Pigeon Island in Nilaveli (on the East Coast) offering some of the best aquatic sights to be discovered. Revel in the vivacity of a variety of fish and corals in all shapes, colours and forms. It is remarkable how beautiful life is deep under water.

If exploring mysterious waters piques your interest, take a wreck dive in the Western, Eastern and Southern seaboard to discover the shipwrecked sea beds bringing you a story from an era long ago. Relish the opportunity of visiting the vessels underwater filled with priceless treasures of ceramics and coins from various maritime nations as you experience a complete marine ecosystem growing side by side.

Encounter electrifying rapids at Kitulgala



Catch the next big wave at Arugam Bay

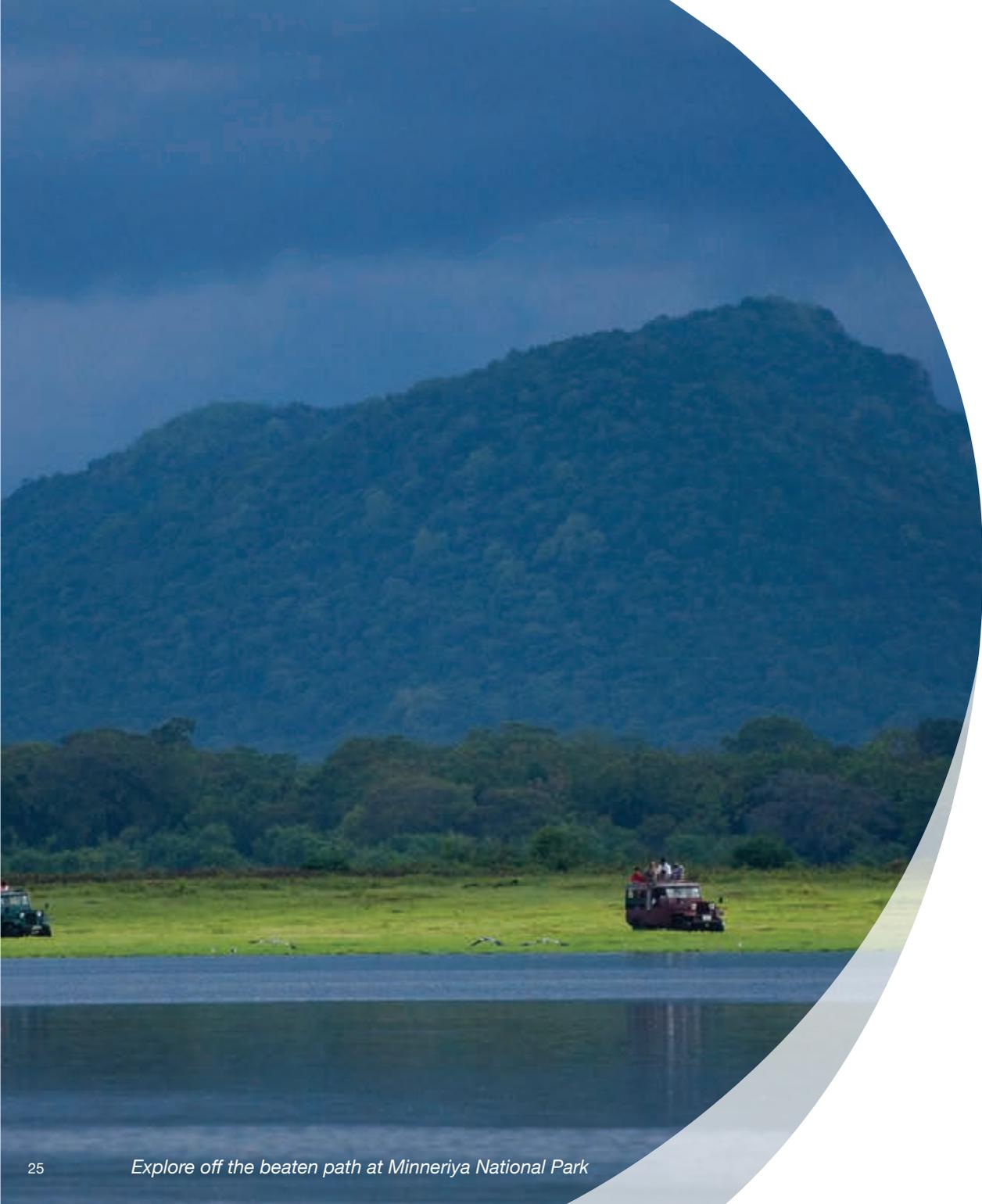




Moving to higher slopes and other interests – trekking, hiking and rock climbing are also excellent ways to explore not just the country, but also the people and traditions. When you start from one part of the country and make your way across the land, you will not only find a variety of different hiking spots, trekking paths, and excellent rock formations for beginners and pros; but you will also experience a change in weather and the climate from warm to cool and chilly. Walking across the country absorbing the scenery is a revelation of beauty, and trying some of the toughest paths and climbs makes you feel like you've truly achieved something.

Horton Plains at an altitude of 2,134m is a refreshing land of high-altitude vegetation with much to see as you trek. Ramble through Baker's Falls, named after Samuel Baker – a famous explorer, and watch the water as it sprays in the cool breeze.

Next, make your way to World's End – a sudden drop that leads to nowhere, covered in mist and clouds. As scary as it sounds, it is an attraction you wouldn't want to miss on your trek.



Another trying hike is the one to the holy mountain of Adams Peak which is usually done in the early hours before dawn, just in time to reach the peak at sunrise. This colonial peak is a famous hike taken by both locals and tourists alike.

Knuckles Mountain Range is also another great forest and valley formation that is uniquely entertaining for the explorer in you. A terrain of rugged mountain peaks, interspersed with streams and cascading waterfalls with grassy fields stretched afar.

Mountain biking is also another aspect of adventure awaiting the bold and daring. The hill country offers some of the best biking terrains in the world with routes through old hunting paths, tea plantations, lush jungles and valleys. You can also explore the ancient cities Polonnaruwa, Sigiriya and Anuradhapura on bike and observe the extensive remains to double on history and sport.

Engage in an age-old sport of golfing in the famed Victoria Golf and Country Resort Kandy, the Royal Colombo Golf Club and the Nuwara Eliya Golf Club or try out a more enduring sport such as horse riding in the hills and in the city and get to know the magnificent wild beauties that can take you in exhilarating speeds.

Whether it is camping or glamping, Sri Lanka has got the best experience under the stars and the most beautiful views off the beaten path. Landscapes are incomplete without an aerial perspective of the island, so marvel as you float in hot air balloons looking down on undisturbed wilderness, or take a jeep safari through Sri Lanka's National Parks and Reserves for an unforgettable journey to see the island's most celebrated creatures.

We really are abundantly thrilling in every way whether it is on land or at sea. Quench your thirst for adventure in a 360-degree experience offered around the island for extreme sports or relaxing activities all year-round.





S **SERENE
AND TRANQUIL
SRI LANKA**

Rejuvenation with the world's oldest medicinal healing methods, Ayurveda.

Yoga by the peaceful waters.

Swedhana, Pizhichil and Shirodhara therapies and treatments and more!

Indulge in home-grown food - sweet, salty, sour, bitter, pungent and astringent.

A number of luxurious spas and Ayurveda houses located around the island.

We are a country with a complete sensory experience. Spirituality is always present in every Sri Lankan. Ayurveda is one of the connecting blocks to achieve healing with attention to the mind, body and soul.

With the 3rd Century BC we saw the introduction into Ayurveda – the world's oldest holistic and powerful mind and body healing systems. Before modern medicine and scientific research entered the market, Ayurveda was the most sought-after healing experience mankind had to offer.

Hailing from ancient rituals and secrets to modern-day luxuries for the mind, body and soul - Sri Lanka is a blissful paradise with the oldest and most holistic medical system available in the world. At the heart of Ayurveda is the theory of the Tri Dosha or 'Three Vital Forces': Vata (wind), Pita (fire), Kapha (earth). A unique combination of these forces exists in each of us that helps define our nature. The idea is to get all three Doshas in harmony and equilibrium.





This deep understanding of physiology and spirituality is practiced in various parts of the island from luxurious spas to traditional medical houses. Various medical herbs, plants and oils are mixed into berries, roots and flowers to create bespoke concoctions customised for each individual's treatment. The experience is truly unfathomable and is a glimpse into the history of rejuvenation and restoration of tensed bodies and weary souls.

Swedhana, Pizhichil and Shirodhara are some of the other therapies and treatments available to individual needs. However, therapy is just a part of the process as determining a well-balanced diet, meditation, and exercise all make it a wholesome experience in the spiritual journey you take.

Home-grown, freshly harvested, delicious food prepared with authentic herbs and spices in Ayurveda are classified into sweet, salty, sour, bitter, pungent and astringent. The ideal Ayurvedic diet includes all six categories classified to achieve nutritional balance and fulfilment. They say let food be thy medicine; a healthy balanced diet will not only help one feel physically healthy and reduce risk of diseases, but will also provide the nutrients to clear your mind and help you feel more active.



The Science of Life is an interesting journey of undisturbed renewal and transformation, not just for your mind and soul, but also for your outer physical body. Ayurvedic treatments, meditation as well as yoga practices aid with enabling you to see that for yourself. With various experiences to treat various problems, it is a divine practice that wraps its charm around capturing the senses of sight, sound and flavour. This healing system plays a major role even in today's era, and has been perfected throughout more than five thousand years.

Maintain your health and improve your quality of life at a variety of wellness retreats located around the island for natural healing therapies. So take on your spiritual journey in utter bliss as you try out a treatment that suits your needs, and indulge in a luxury healing system of the Kings. Your mindfulness is as important as your physical well-being, so why not experience the comfort of Ayurveda, and enlighten yourself with absolute therapy and care.



Dance with the fire dancers at Gangarama Navam Perehera

SO FIERY AND
FASCINATING
SRI LANKA

The Grand Pageant of Asia - Kandy Esala Perahera

Kandyan Dancers are the epitome of Sri Lankan festivities and events hailing from the Kandyan kingdom.

Sri Lankan New Year colourful sweet-meats and traditional rituals dating centuries back.

Enjoy the gleaming Festival of Lights – Deepavali celebrated by Hindus.

Feast on Id Ul Fitr (Ramadan) as the annual 30-day fasting period comes to an end.

A country where celebration and culture collide, in a multi-ethnic community of people enjoying many holidays. A marriage of historical saga with cultural pageantry is born into colourful festivals of a diverse ethnic community; Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim and Christian. Beginning with January, every full moon is called a poya and is a public holiday for Buddhist religious observance and discourse. For the first full moon poya, 'Duruthu Poya', the Kelaniya Raja Maha Viharaya or Kelani Temple hosts a perehera (procession) to commemorate the symbolic event of the Buddha's first three visits to Sri Lanka. The perehera is a fascination of traditional dancers, drummers, whip-crackers, acrobats and enrobed elephants.

The Gangarama Navam Perehera organised by the Gangarama Temple, is next on the calendar and is a colourful and prestigious cultural pageant of traditional festivities on the city streets. Performers, brightly decorated elephants and visitors walk slowly along the road supporting the longevity of culture and arts.

The most tourist-oriented festival is the Kandy Esala Perehera lasting over 10 days and climaxing on Esala Poya (late July to early August). As with the other pereheras, this too has the full entourage of entertainment with a majestic tusker carrying the sacred tooth relic of the Buddha for the people to venerate.

April brings with it the Sri Lankan New Year (usually on the 13th and 14th) celebrated by all citizens at specific auspicious times to commemorate harvest thanksgiving. The New Year brings many traditional activities; a fire is lit, new clothes are worn, money is exchanged, the elders of the household apply oil on the head of each member and traditional games are played. A variety of festive food is also widely available to try out, allowing you to experience the New Year the Sri Lankan way.







The commemoration of birth, enlightenment (Nirvāna) and Parinirvāna of the Buddha – Vesak, follows the Sri Lankan New Year and is celebrated in May. People prepare for the festival by making colourful lanterns and decorating their homes with lights. Vesak is considered one of the most important festivals in the Buddhist calendar.

The Hindus celebrate Thai Pongal, the Hindu harvest festival and Deepavali, the festival of lights. Worshipping at the kovil (temple), intricate kolam patterns (creative motifs made from coloured rice), and illuminating one's homes with little lamps and adornments are all part of the festivities.

The Muslims follow the Islamic lunar calendar and have three important festivals in Sri Lanka; Milad Un Nabi (Prophet Mohammed's birthday), Id Ul Fitr (Ramadan) and Id Ul Adha (Hajj Festival). They recite special prayers, exchange gifts and prepare special dishes and sweets to share with everyone.

In July and August, people celebrate the Katharagama festival in the holy city of Katharagama bringing together Buddhists, Hindus, Muslims and the Vedda people. It is one of the rarest festivals involving many ethnicities humming with activities from pujas, offerings and several devotions.

The Hindus also celebrate the Vel festival which is one of the important festivals in the Tamil community. Devotees take to the streets in bright coloured clothes holding chariot parades, tinkling bells, singing and Kavadi (a form of dance offering). During the festival, they often perform rituals by piercing their cheeks and other body parts in the name of Skanda (Lord Muruga).

The longest festival in Sri Lanka spanning 25 days is the Nallur festival. Vibrant chariot processions, drumming, dancing and acts of self-mortification, held in honour of the war god Skanda is seen at the festival held in the most significant Hindu temple – Nallur Kovil.

As with the rest of the world, the Christians celebrate Christmas Day to rejoice in the birth of Jesus Christ participating in midnight mass and the exchange of gifts with family over Christmas lunch. Sri Lankan Christians also observe Good Friday (Crucifixion of Christ) and Easter Sunday (Resurrection of Christ) as they do all over the world.

The annual Sri Pada pilgrimage (Adam's Peak) takes place in December and sees visitors from all over the world gathered to make the ascent just in time for sunrise. At the summit of the mountain is a giant footprint believed to have a special significance in almost all religions in Sri Lanka.







On another note, art and literature festivals have taken the main stage in Sri Lanka in recent years with the discovery of new and fascinating creativity. Artists come from all parts of the world to entertain, enthral and draw inspiration from the island of many surprises, leading to the explosion of art exhibitions in various galleries across the island. Locally as well, the art scene has seen a massive emergence of musicians, artists and performers who are pushing the boundaries of culture and local design, resulting in many annual festivals celebrating creativity.

The Kala Pola is one such art exhibition that is conducted annually where a major road way in Colombo is turned into a massive art gallery for a weekend with artists and sculptors from all over the island gathering to share their creativity with the public. For music there is the Jaffna Music Festival which brings together musicians from different parts of the island, melding styles to create new sounds, beats and rhythms that inspire their listeners. And finally, the Galle Literary Festival welcomes audiences and world-class writers, both from around the world and locally, who come and share their knowledge and the source of their inspiration with aspiring writers and book-lovers alike.

Other festive events also take place throughout the year where beach parties, art performances, kite festivals, water-sport festivals and sports events are popular with many looking forward to them.

Give way to the relaxing life overlooking the Negombo Lagoon

SO PICTURESQUE
AND PERFECT
SRI LANKA

Visit the natural World Heritage Sites - Horton Plains, Sinharaja Rain Forest and Knuckles Mountain Range.

Surround yourself with tea estates in Nuwara Eliya.

Explore more than 100 waterfalls and rivers.

Take the most Instagram-worthy picture at the Ella Nine Arch Bridge.

Sri Lanka is a prime eco-tourism destination with a variety of flora and fauna spread across vast landscapes of lush forestry, chilly hillocks and grassy valleys. Cascading waterfalls, blankets of tea plantations, quaint villages, icy flowing streams and rivers, and cloud-covered mountaintops are just a glance into what Sri Lanka has to offer.

Explore the vast greens of the Victoria Golf Course and the rugged wilderness of Knuckles Mountain Range, both excellent views to take in after being in the bustling city of Kandy. Take a short trip further up-country to the cool climes of the quaint city of Nuwara Eliya and its tea country, where tea bushes cover every hill and mountain surrounding the villages of people so humble and polite.

Explore the desolate plateau of Horton Plains and all its inhabitants while you indulge in breath-taking views of Baker's Falls and World's End. Say hello to the friendly sambar roaming around the fields and watch the birds tease you with their constant posing.

Further inland you'll need to stop by at the famous Nine Arch Bridge at Ella which is currently a popular 'insta-worthy' picture opportunity. Take a hike through the mountain path to see the Ella Rock where the views are just striking. The ancient secrets of the Ravana Ella Falls, the sacred pilgrimage to Adam's Peak, the historical rock fortress of Sigiriya – a mysterious fortress that sheltered a King, from which you can see the Mount Pidurangala and the dense jungles of the Sinharaja Forest Reserve are all exceptional scenic views you don't want to miss.

Witness a way of life largely untouched by modernity, with an exceptional array of endemic animal and plant species just waiting to be discovered. Sri Lanka can be identified as a spectacular trekking country with an atmosphere so fresh and so very iconic.

To observe the best scenic beauty the country has to offer, you must ride the train. The journey up North passes little fishing villages and the friendly faces of their inhabitants, with the sun shining as bright as their smiles. The Northernmost point of the country, Jaffna, brings a sort of vibrancy to it with the extravagant Nallur Kovil in all its splendour, as well as all the colourful arts, crafts and treats in roadside shops. Surrounding the city is some of the island's most beautiful beaches with Casuarina Beach being one of them.

Even in the commercial capital of Colombo, we have multiple rooftop areas in some of the highest buildings, making way to a view of the cityscape which is absolutely exquisite for a developing nation. Sight-seeing in Sri Lanka is of an abundant supply with God's creations visible at every corner of the eye; and all you have to do is just look.





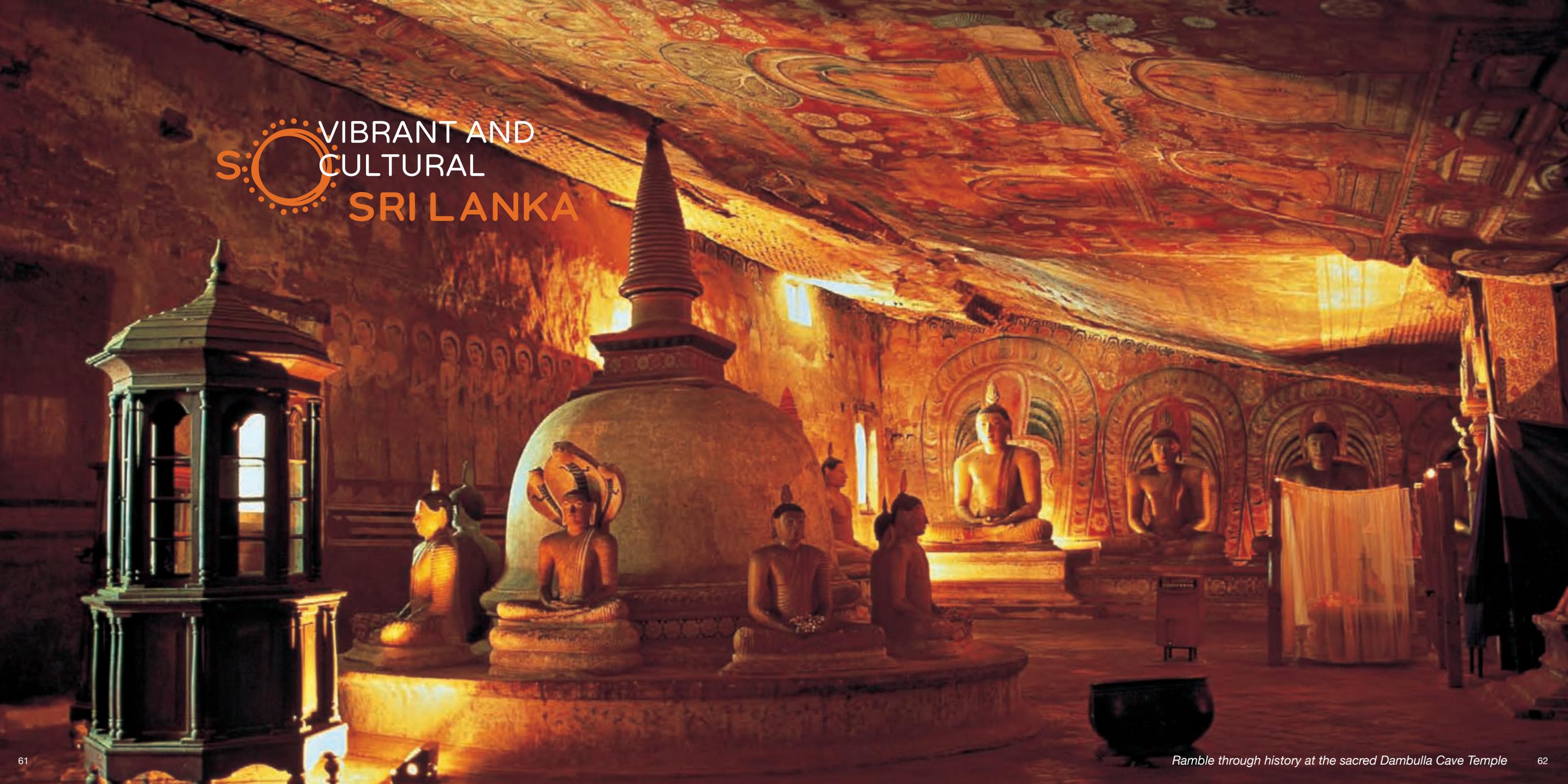
Snap the best Instagram-worthy pictures at Lovers' Leap in Trincomalee



Explore the mystical valleys of Castlereagh Reservoir, Hatton



S. VIBRANT AND
CULTURAL
SRI LANKA





Experience Horton Plains, a popular World Heritage Site in the Central Highlands.

Find peace at the Gal Viharaya in Polonnaruwa built in the 12th century.

Admire the incredible Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic at the Dalada Maligawa.

Visit the 8th Wonder of the World and UNESCO Heritage Site - Sigiriya.

Linger at the Golden Temple of Dambulla, the largest and best-preserved cave temple complex in Sri Lanka.

With almost 3000 years of history holding ancient cities in their place, Sri Lanka is renowned for all its glory in the remnants of palaces, temples, monasteries, hospitals and theatres intricately carved and modelled out of stone laying abandoned amidst the soaring mountains and bustling cities. The bricks, the stones, the soil and the creative patterns on the walls, all speak of a culture that was so very vibrant long ago. Yet, we feel the same thrill, excitement and aura of royalty who walked on the same roads we walk on today. They're alive in the shadows, in the leaves that whistle past with the wind and the sounds of a thousand chants in the air.

Even the trees with their centuries of wisdom narrate a story of Kingdoms that ruled, and Kings who governed a country that was obedient and humble. A story so ancient, yet so powerful, made the foundation blocks for the land that exists today. The ruins and remnants we see at present are all evidence that stand by our rich history and colourful culture in all its aspects.

With an astonishing eight UNESCO World Heritage Sites within its compact shores, Sri Lanka is indeed a marvel of wonders packed in a little island. She boasts of six cultural sites that are a testament to a civilization with centuries of recorded history.

First on the list and part of the Cultural Triangle; we invite you to escape into the illuminating Royal City of Kandy and the Dalada Maligawa, the most venerated religious temple seeing hundreds of devotees and visitors on a daily basis. Revel in the antiquities and marvel in the beauty of the culture surrounded by the Kandy Lake glistening in the distance.

Next we are transported to the linking parts of the triangle; the ancient cities of Anuradhapura and Polonnaruwa. A living heritage today, these cities are home to many Buddhist monks, reverent devotees and people, with the air surrounded by the hypnotic murmur of religious chanting, bringing to life the brick temples, Buddha statues and towering dagobas (dome-shaped structures) of a time long ago.

The city of Anuradhapura especially, passes as one of the grandest monastic cities in Asia established in the 4th Century BC with the arrival of Buddhism where the infamous 'Sri Maha Bodhi Tree' exists, grown from the original tree under which the Buddha attained enlightenment.



Listen to the harmonious chants at Anuradhapura



The most popular World Heritage Site and ‘the eighth wonder of the world’ Sigiriya, is one of the most remarkable archaeological sites of a stupendous rock fortress. It is covered with beautiful frescoes of celestial maidens earning it the description as the world’s largest picture gallery. A series of pools, channels and fountains make up the pleasure gardens of Sigiriya and still boast of Sri Lanka’s hydraulic sophistication back then.

The Dambulla Cave Temple is another heritage site that has been a pilgrimage destination for the past 22 years. It is also the largest and best-preserved cave temple on the island. It’s glorious wall paintings and over 150 preserved in and around the temple sees visitors both local and foreign observing the still-beauty and heritage of the rock caves.

The next UNESCO site is the exotic Sinharajah Forest Reserve, abundant in its endemic trees and species. It is Sri Lanka’s primary rainforest and a must-visit for all nature enthusiasts.



Ascend the magnificent steps of the lion's rock



Be drawn into the secrets of the frescoe paintings





The Central Highlands; Horton Plains National Park, Adam's Peak and Knuckles Conservation Forest make up the next heritage sites that truly stand as proof of beauty of God's creations. Picturesque views of land and rock formations along with endless grass in the cool hill climates are some of nature's best gifts to Sri Lanka.

A World Heritage Site of a different era is the Dutch Fort in Galle. With 14 massive bastions, a grid system of streets, and some original Dutch bungalows, the Fort is bustling with life as it did when Galle was the main passenger port. Today, Galle is everyone's favourite spot to visit with a line-up of little street shops selling arts & crafts, and cosy café corners still preserving the uniqueness of back then.

Take the path of the Kings as you learn the story of Sri Lanka's heritage with its abundant cultural energy seeping in from the cities. Each and every city you step into speaks of a different story, possibly in a different era, just like a trail leading to the truth. This mesmerizing experience of history will give you a deep perspective of the little island and all her beauty.



S TROPICAL
AND BRIGHT
SRI LANKA

Revel in a coastline of 1,340 km long!

Visit Unawatuna Beach, one of the 10 best beaches in the world - National Geographic.

Trincomalee is your go-to beach destination for clear waters.

Watch traditional stilt fishermen at Koggala Beach.

The surfing capital of the world is right here at Arugam Bay!

Explore the largest coral reef living in the sea beds at Kalpitiya.



Golden sandy, sun kissed stretches of sand unfolds the turquoise water of the sea lapping against the shore. Spoiling you for choice with beaches on a 1,340km fringe of an island from well-known coastal towns to hidden inlets and coves.

The beaches surrounding the island, each different from the other, opens your eyes to all the shades of blue in the colour wheel. It's a relaxing feeling to watch the waves catch up to the shore and hear the sound of water creating music in the wind. An environment so peaceful at times and so busy at others; always nice to look at, unwind and feel the sea breeze in the air.

Holidaying in the Southern Coast of Sri Lanka is so popular with each destination owning distinct characteristics. Make your way to the lively beaches of Hikkaduwa and Unawatuna, the latter being voted one of the 10 best beaches in the world by the Discovery Channel. Quirky restaurants lined on the beach, each offering a 'special' better than the other and friendly families with their kids enjoying the shallow waters.

Jungle Beach is another little bay, with crystal clear shallow water that bargains with a short hike to get there - but is so worth it all once you catch that first glimpse of the sea. For those of you who are looking to relax and escape the monotonous daily life, jungle beach also has luxurious resorts with private beach areas for you to bask in.



Absorb tropical sunsets at Weligama

Mirissa, Tangalle and Weligama are popular, relaxing atmospheres with energetic nights where accommodation is freely available from guest-houses to luxury suites and villas. These beaches are for the party-goers who want to dance the night away on the sand, with the cool breeze of the sea on their faces.

Moving towards the East and North-East Coast; Trincomalee, Nilaveli, Pasikudah, Kalkudah and Arugam Bay are some of the finest beach destinations, with the last being listed as one of the top 10 surf spots in the world. The water in this part of the island is also turquoise and clear, with a shallow pool that stretches out far.

The North Coast offers virgin beaches fringed with palmyrah trees and the transparent waters of Casuarina Beach against the wild unforgettable sand dunes of Manalkadu. Experience a unique beach atmosphere with just the wind and waves whistling in your ear. Unspoiled and perfect in its beauty, the North Coast longs for your arrival.

Off the North Western Coast is Kalpitiya, with the largest coral reef living in the sea beds. Kalpitiya is tremendously popular snorkelling and diving at the bar reef as well as kite surfing and dolphin watching as well. It's the best of both world with water sports and relaxation coupled together in one place.

Off Colombo, the beaches at Wadduwa, Kalutara and Bentota are also great coastal destinations for a weekend getaway or a day-trip with star-classed hotels and excellent resorts.

Closer to the cosmopolitan part of Sri Lanka we are surrounded by the Mount Lavinia Beach, which has an exciting stretch of swanky restaurants with busy nights and the iconic Mount Lavinia Hotel itself. Enjoy the golden hour by the beach as the sun sinks into the glittering waters and brings an end to yet another day.

Climate-wise, Sri Lanka is a convenient year-round destination as it experiences two monsoons that occur in opposite halves of the island at different times to ensure you enjoy the beaches all around the island all year.



A group of four young children, three boys and one girl, are smiling and laughing in a natural outdoor setting. They are dressed in casual clothing, including a red shirt, a yellow and grey shirt, and a blue and red striped shirt. The background features tall grasses and a sandy ground.

S BOLD AND SPIRITED
SRI LANKA



Taste a local favourite of Stringhoppers and Sambal

The most hospitable and humble folk you'll ever meet!

A land of tradition and vibrant culture of fine arts, crafts and grand festivals.

The most flavourful spicy food with the world's best coconut sambal.

Finest and freshest tea of the highest quality.

A land of exquisite gem stones.

We are bold in every way. The true essence of Sri Lanka and her traditions; from food & spices, entertainment, fashion, sports and more always stand out. When it comes to food, we go the extra mile with our spices - making various secret mixtures for the maximum taste. The smell of freshly ground spices; a heaven to our senses since we're all about bold flavours. We love our spicy food, so when there is bright orange coconut sambal laid on the table, it brings joy upon every Sri Lankan's face. After all, who can say no to a spicy, tangy coconut sambal?

We love our cricket and baila music. You can't have one without the other. We love being competitive on the field almost as much as we love singing along to loud music.

Our cultural attire is just exquisite. The Kandyan saree and Nilame uniform hails from the time of the Kings, and still has that royal and regal feeling when worn.

So what is Sri Lanka's secret?

The secret lies with her people. The spicy food lovers, crazy cricket fans, milk tea drinkers, and big smilers are all what makes Sri Lanka what she is – bold, hearty and full of life.

People are all born creative and Sri Lanka has really nurtured its artists tracing back to a history of painting that started in the 2nd or 3rd Century BC. From painting to sculptures and crafts; a land of tradition and talent down to the incredible forms of art seen today, Sri Lanka is exceptionally talented and skilled.

Her spirit lives on in everything she produces; from the widest variety of gems produced by a country with 45 of the world's 80 gems including rubies, sapphires, cat's eyes, alexandrites, garnets, moonstones, topaz, aquamarine, amethysts and zircons to name a few. Isn't she so precious?

As the island with the world's highest quality tea, uniquely assembled in each and every household with absolutely no norms of sticking to two spoonful of sugar when you can have four, we are most certainly proud of our country and the people who make her stand out.





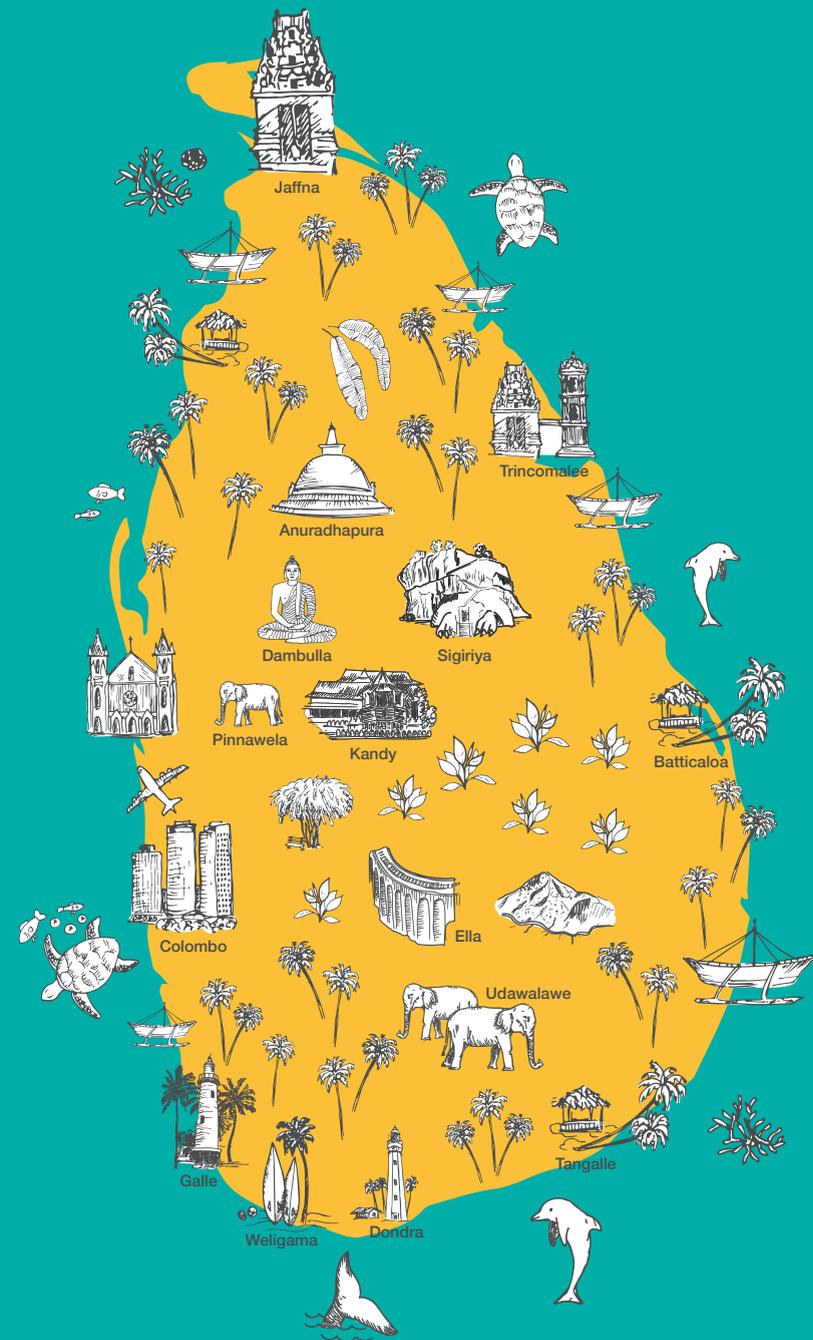
Taste a tropical abundance of pineapples



Be open to a variety of amazing spices



SO INCREDIBLE
AND INVITING
SRI LANKA



It truly is paradise on earth isn't it?

With every sunrise, with every breath, with every gush of wind; the people and all living things enjoy the bliss of yet another morning in the warmth and forever providing country we call home. So what are you waiting for?

Make your way to Sri Lanka, we're always just so happy to see you!