

• **PATA Tour # 05 : Cultural Tour – 01 night / 02 days**

Day 1

Early morning leave Colombo & Proceed to Kandalama via Pinnawala with a packed breakfast. Visit the elephant orphanage in Pinnawala. This orphanage is the home for about 65 elephants, out of which some are baby elephants found abandoned or orphaned in the wild. They are being cared, fed and trained by the wild life authorities. The best time to visit is during the feeding times, when one will have the opportunity of seeing the baby elephants being bottle-fed. Also could accompany the elephants to a river close-by and see them having their daily bath.

On completion proceed to Dambulla and Visit Dambulla rock temple.

Dambulla – located in the north central province this UNESCO World Heritage Site which dates back to the 01st from many eras century BC, is an amazing complex of 05 caves, first used as a refuge by an ancient king who on regaining his throne, commissioned magnificent carved images within the living rock. Later kings made further improvements and the caves contain over 150 images of the Buddha of which the largest is a colossal figure spanning 15 meters. Cave inscriptions from the 2nd Century BC are found and on the walls are many paintings most of which belong to the Kandy period (early 19th century). This temple is a perfect location to view evolution of ancient Sri Lankan art and is important historical site due to the amalgamation of the material



On completion proceed to a star class hotel.

Overnight stay at a star class hotel on Bed and Breakfast basis.

Day 2

After breakfast proceed to Sigiriya and climb the Sigiriya Rock.

Sigiriya – this UNESCO World Heritage Site, a spectacular Rock Fortress, is one of Sri Lanka’s major attractions. The most impressive facets of the unique complex are the Water Gardens, the Frescoes of beautiful maidens, the Mirror Wall with ancient graffiti, the Lion platform and the Summit of 1.6 hectares, which was completely covered by buildings during the period of Sigiriya’s glory. Built by King Kashyapa (477-495 A.D), the “Lion Rock” is a citadel of unusual beauty rising 200m from the scrub jungle. The rock was the innermost stronghold of the 70 hectare fortified town and the base is ringed by a moat, rampart, and extensive gardens. The world-renowned frescoes (originally 500, of which only 19 remain today) which are in a sheltered pocket of the rock approached by a spiral stairway are painted in earth pigments on plaster. The old stairway to the top led through the mouth of a crouching lion but today only the huge paws remain giving an indication of the massive proportions of the head. *Remains of the handsome royal citadel are on the summit and several caves for meditation, audience platforms and baths complete the unique site.*



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On completion proceed to Polonnaruwa.

Polonnaruwa – this medieval city, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, rose to fame as the capital (10th - 12th century AD) after the decline of Anuradhapura. The entire landscape of the region is punctuated by huge man-made reservoirs, the most famous of which is the Parakrama Samudra or the Sea of Parakrama, larger in size than the Colombo harbour. The monuments are relatively well preserved and give clear evidence of the glory of Sri Lanka's past. Highlights are the Royal Palace complex including the Kings Palace and Audience Hall, the Quadrangle with its concentration of ancient heritage and the spectacular Gal Vihare complex of four massive images of the Buddha, cut from a single slab of granite - a highlight of ancient Sri Lankan rock carving. Some of the best examples of the Hindu influence – the Temples of Shiva, intricate statues of Hindu Gods, fascinating Buddhist temples, the Lankatileka and Watadage, the Galpotha, the Lotus bath, the KiriVihareDagoba and the remains of a former Temple of the Tooth are other impressive sights



Tour Cost

1 Pax	US \$ 575.00
Per person in a group of 2 Pax	US \$ 460.00
Per person in a group of 3-6 Pax	US \$ 440.00
Per person in a group of 7-10 Pax	US \$ 398.00
Per person in a group of 10 - 35 Pax	US \$ 390.00

Lunch supplement: US\$ 20/- per person

Above rates includes:

- > Transportation by an air conditioned car
- > Service of an English speaking Chauffer guide / National Guide
- > One night accommodation with Breakfast
- > Entrance tickets to Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage, Dambulla Temple, Sigiriya & Polonnaruwa City Tour.

Above rates excludes:

- Cost of meals and beverages
- Entrance tickets to the sites not mentioned in the itinerary
- Video and camera permits
- Expenses of personal nature
- Any other services not specified above
- Lunch and Dinner