Hill Country Tour
9 Days / 8 Nights
2 Persons

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Key
HB: Half Board - Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Price
Validity Period (01st Nov 2019 – 30th Nov 2019 / Based on 02 Adults)

Price per person sharing double room on Half Board Basis | USD 1140.00 per person

Included
- 09 nights’ accommodation in Double room sharing basis.
- Meals on Half board Basis.
- Transport in an air conditioned car with an English speaking Chauffeur Guide.
- Arrival & Departure transfers.
- Water bottle on Arrival.
- All applicable taxes (Subject to change).

Excluded
- Early check-in and late check out.
- Lunch During the tour.
- Tips and Porterage’s.
- Other extra expenses of personal nature.
- Entrance fees for the sites as per the program.
- Camera & Video permits (for tourist sites mentioned).
- All extra expenses at Hotels.
- Visa fee charges. For details log on to http://www.eta.gov.lk/slvisa/

Day 1: Back of Beyond Pidurangala, Sigiriya

Sigiriya
Situated in the northern Matale District of Sri Lanka, the small village of Sigiriya is best known for its proximity to the magnificent Sigiriya ‘Lion Rock’. The village offers some comfortable accommodations and a variety of restaurants for visitors to enjoy when stopping over to view the famous rock. This ancient rock fortress rises abruptly from the lush landscape and reaches over 200 metres in height. Crowning this massive outcrop are the ruins of an ancient civilisation, which are considered to be one of the best-preserved examples of ancient urban planning and have been listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visitors can walk through the lily-dotted moats, lush gardens and cave shrines, through the grand lion-paw entrance, and climb the series of steep staircases passing beautiful murals painted on the sheer rock walls, and enjoy exploring the ruins and soaking up spectacular views of the surrounds.

Day Itinerary (AIRPORT / DAMBULLA / PIDURANGALA - Approximate travel time 04-05 Hours)

Helanka Vacations representative will meet you at the arrival lounge and transfer to Sigiriya.

Arrival time to be update.

En route visit Dambulla Cave temple.

Dambulla Cave Temple, was declared a World Heritage site in 1991. The Cave Temple had first been constructed during the reign of King Vattagamini Abhaya. There are 5 caves in the temple and 157 statues of the Lord Buddha, with paintings on the ceilings and walls of the cave. The paintings of the cave highlight the past of Lord Buddha.

Arrive and check into the hotel.

Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

Basis
Half Board - Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 2: Back of Beyond Pidurangala, Sigiriya

Day Itinerary
Day Itinerary (PIDURANGALA/Polonnaruwa/Sigiriya/Pidurangala - Approximate travel time 04-05 Hours)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Proceed to Polonnaruwa. Set on a city tour in ancient city of Polonnaruwa.

Kings ruled the central plains of Sri Lanka from Polonnaruwa 800 years ago when it was a commercial and religious center. The glories of that age can be found in the archaeological treasures that still create a picture of how the city once looked. Some of the ancient structures include; the palace of King Parakramabahu, Potgul Vehera (this is the
The oldest library complex found in Sri Lanka, where the Buddhist writings were studied and resided, Shiva Devale (a 13th century Hindu shrine, that was built entirely from stone), Vatadage (built for the protection of a small stupa, the structure has two stone platforms decorated with elaborate stone carvings) Nissanka Lata Mandapaya, the Sathmahal Prasada (a unique seven story brick structure), Hatadage and Atadage (where the Temple of the Tooth Relic was placed first before it was brought to Kandy), Gal Potha (stone book), Pabalu Vehera, Rankoth Vehera, Lankatilaka, Kiri Vehera, Gal Viharaya and Tivanka Image House.

Return to Sigiriya.

Afternoon climb the Lions Rock, Sigiriya.

Sigiriya holds remains of King Kasyapa’s palace, forever set atop the rock yet still showcasing their age-old beauty. Numerous eye-catching highlights persist in this fortress.

Climb the Sigiriya rock (Lions rock). When entering the site walk along the Royal gardens which consists of pools, fountains and an unending number of aromatic gardens. As you enter the second level of the rock, witness the colourful paintings that date back to 5th century AD. Another interesting architectural masterpiece here is the Mirror wall which was covered with graffiti between the 7th and 10th century AD. The Audience hall is a part of the royal complex constructed on a rock boulder. The Cobra head cave is named due to the natural shape of the rock itself. Sigiriya is one of the many UNESCO heritage sites in the country.

Return to the Hotel.

Dinner and overnight in Sigiriya.

**Basis**
Half Board - Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

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**Day 3: Amaya Hills Resort, Kandy**

**Kandy**
The second major city in Sri Lanka (the other being Colombo) lies in the midst of the Kandy Plateau, an area of tropical tea plantations. A prominent feature is Kandy Lake, to the north of which lies the golden-roofed Temple of The Tooth, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and important place for Buddhist worship, as it is said to house a tooth relic of Buddha. Other fascinating places include the Ceylon Tea Museum, the Buddhist Publication Society, and the Ayurvedic centre in the Amaya Hills nearby, the Kandy Art Association and Cultural Centre, where crafts people can be seen at work, and the Kandy Muslim Hotel, which offers the finest spiced curries served with naan or rotis.

**Day Itinerary (SIGIRIYA /KANDY - Approximate travel time 02-03 Hours)**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Proceed to Kandy.

Kandy was the capital of Sri Lanka during the ancient times of Kings and Queens. Nestling midst low hills and looped by the Mahaweli River, this religious city is one of the most sacred places of worship to Buddhists in the world and was also named a world heritage site by UNESCO.

Visit Peradeniya Botanical Garden.
The Royal Botanical gardens in Peradeniya, established in 1821 stretch across 147 acres. These verdant gardens were once used as a royal ground. Being the largest botanical garden in Sri Lanka, its highlights include a fine collection of fruits, orchids, and a stately avenue of royal palms, an aptly named cannonball fruit tree and 40-meter-high Burma bamboo. A giant Javan fig tree on the great lawn can also be found here, held stern by its colossal central trunk that leads into an umbrella-like canopy of branches.

Check into the hotel.

Evening visit the temple of the tooth relic.

The Temple of the Tooth relic; the crown jewel of the Kandy city is also known as Dalada Maligawa. ‘Maligawa’ translates to palace and the temple is a part of it. It has seen centuries of peaceful reigns and is one of the many historical places in the island.

Return to the hotel.

Dinner and overnight in Kandy.

Basis
Half Board - Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 4: 98 Acres Resort & Spa, Ella

Ella
Resting on the southern edge of Sri Lanka’s picturesque Hill Country, the small, sleepy village of Ella is known for its exceptional natural scenery, its wonderfully tranquil atmosphere, and its pleasantly moderate climate. This popular backpacker-hub has become a well-established, must-see tourist destination and an ideal base for travellers exploring the idyllic surrounding countryside cloaked in tea plantations and lush forest. With only a handful of essential stores and tourist facilities, Ella has managed to retain its rural charm and visitors will find a single street winding its way down the hillside past a few quaint cafés, guesthouses and cottages enclosed in neat, flower-filled gardens. At the edge of the escarpment you will find a classic view past the renowned Ella Rock on the right and through a cleft in the hills – the so-called Ella Gap – to the plains far below.

Day Itinerary (KANDY/ ELLA - Approximate travel time 04-05 Hours)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Proceed to Nanu Oya.

En route visit a tea plantation and a factory.

Enjoy a train journey from Nanu oya to Ella. (2nd Class non-reserved seats as requested). - Please note these non-reserved compartments will be bit crowded.

Your chauffeur guide will meet you at the Ella Railway Station and transfer you to the hotel.

Arrive and check into the hotel.

Dinner and overnight in Ella.

Half Board - Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
Day 5: 98 Acres Resort & Spa, Ella

Day Itinerary (ELLA/HAPUTALE/ELLA - Approximate travel time 03-04 Hours)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Visit nine arch bridge. Thereafter proceed to Haputale and visit the view point of Lipton seat. Free time to walk through the tea plantations.

Return to hotel and leisure.

Evening climb the Mini Adams peak in Ella.

View the sunset. Little Adams peak of Ella, also known as ‘Punchi Sri Pada’ is 1141 meters high. Walk through lush green tea plantations, waterfalls and paddy fields while enjoying the sceneries. It will take around 35-45 minutes to reach to the top of the mountain on a zig- zag path.

Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

Basis
Half Board - Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

Day 6: Grand Udawalawe Safari Resort, Udawalawe

Udawalawe
Situated about 165 kilometres from Colombo, the Udawalawe National Park has become a popular tourist destination and the third most visited Game Park in Sri Lanka. It was originally built to provide a sanctuary for the wild animals displaced by the construction of the Udawalawe Reservoir in 1972 on the Walawe River. It covers nearly 30 000 hectares, and is home to herds of Sri Lankan elephants, water buffalo, monitor lizards, sambar deer, leopards and indigenous water birds. Open-top safaris led by experienced guides through the savannah-type landscape are the ideal way to view the wildlife, with most visitors being assured of enjoying a special treat of viewing young and adult elephant at the water holes.

Day Itinerary (ELLA/UDAWALAWA - Approximate travel time 01-02 Hours)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Proceed to Udawalawe.

Check into the hotel.

Afternoon set on a Jeep safari in Udawalawa National Park.

Udawalawe national park covers 30,821 hectares. Udawalawe is an important habitat for elephants and is ideal for bird watching. The park is home to the Rusty-spotted cat, Fishing cat, Leopard, Sloth bear, Sambar deer, Wild boar and Water buffalo. Endemic birds such as Spurfowl, Red-faced malkoha, Grey hornbill, Brown-capped babbler, Jungle fowl black-capped and Kingfisher can also be found here.

Return to the hotel.
Dinner and overnight in Udawalawa.

**Basis**
Half Board - Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

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**Day 7: Dickwella Resort & Spa, Dickwella**

**Dickwella**
Located in the south of Sri Lanka, the small coastal market town of Dickwella lies in the country’s scenic Southern Province. This town features a wonderfully long sandy beach fringing a sheltered bay flanked by headlands. It is home to the country’s largest seated Buddha standing at an impressive 50 metres high. It serves as an excellent base from which to explore the scenic surrounds such as the Pehambiya Headland. Visitors can also look forward to exploring the underwater wonderland of offshore coral reefs protecting the sparkling bay and inhabited by an array of exotic fish, swimming in the calm waters and discovering hidden coves dotting the coast. Other highlights include: diving, kayaking, canoeing, and surfing. Don’t miss the opportunity to enjoy the hustle and bustle of the weekly Saturday market.

**Day Itinerary (UDAWALAWA/Dickwella - Approximate travel time 01-02 Hours)**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Proceed to your hotel in Dickwella.

Arrive and check-in and leisure.

Dinner and overnight at the hotel

**Basis**
Half Board - Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

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**Day 8: Dickwella Resort & Spa, Dickwella**

**Day Itinerary**
**Day Itinerary (Leisure)**

Breakfast at the hotel.

Full day leisure at the hotel or by the poolside.

Dinner and overnight at the hotel

**Basis**
Half Board - Dinner, Bed and Breakfast

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**Day 9: End of Itinerary**

**Day Itinerary (DICKWELLA/ GALLE /AIRPORT)
Breakfast at the hotel.

Thereafter proceed to Galle. Set on a city tour in Galle.

Galle is the best example of a fortitude city built by the Portuguese in the South, showing the interaction between Portuguese architectural styles and native traditions. The 300-year-old Galle fort is a world heritage site. A remarkable site paved with cobblestone streets and reminiscent buildings now occupied by boutique shops and fine dining restaurants that enhance the ever so vivid setting of the town. A Sightseeing tour of Galle includes a visit to the National Maritime Museum.

Thereafter you will be transferred to the Airport to connect with your departure flight.

Departure flight time and hotel leaving time to be update.

End of the tour...