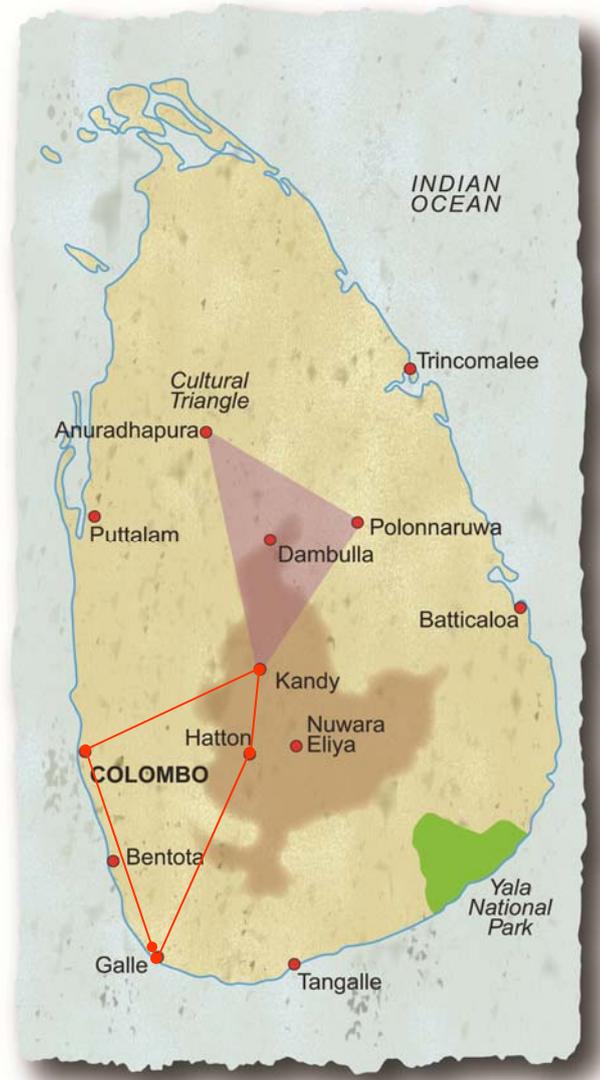


Taste of Sri Lanka



Brief Itinerary

Day 1	Fly Colombo, Sri Lanka
Day 2	Drive Villa Talangama, 1 night, B&B
Day 3	Drive Kandy, Bougainvillea Retreat, 3 nights, B&B
Day 6	Train to Hatton, Tea Trails Castlereagh, 3 nights, full-board
Day 9	Drive Galle, Why House, 6 nights, B&B
Day 15	Fly home

Day 1

Today you will take the international flight to Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Day 2

On arrival in Colombo you will be met and transferred to stay at Villa Talangma for the night.

Surrounded by rice paddies and overlooking the Talangama wetlands, Villa Talangama, a plantation-style bungalow, enjoys a tranquil lakeside setting in suburban Colombo. The two suites are simply furnished yet elegantly decorated using period furniture.



You will spend 1 night at Villa Talangma on a B&B basis.

Day 3

This morning your private driver guide will meet you at the villa and drive you to Kandy to stay at Bougainvillea Retreat for the next 3 nights. During your stay you can explore the botanical gardens and explore the city on a guided walk including a visit to the Temple of the tooth, a gems, antiques, arts and crafts workshop and the Kandy Museum.

The hill-country capital of Kandy lies on a plain amidst towering hills and looped by Sri Lanka's largest river: the Mahaweli. For Buddhists, Kandy is one of the holiest cities with the famous Temple of the Tooth and in August there is a magnificent procession where the sacred tooth of Buddha is majestically paraded on elephant back around the city streets. It's a lovely place to wander around to see the faded colonial grandeur of bygone years. The botanic gardens have many rare and wonderful trees and plants from around the world. There is a great golf course and you can visit the elephant orphanage or go trekking in the world heritage Knuckles Mountain Range.



Bougainvillea Retreat lies in a beautiful valley in the grounds of the Victoria Golf and Country Resort with picturesque views of the Knuckles Mountain range and Victoria Lake. It is the perfect place to rest after visiting the hustle and bustle of Kandy. Bougainvillea has 8 rooms, 3 in the main house and 5 garden rooms nestled amongst the grounds.

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You will spend 3 nights at the Bougainvillea Retreat on a B&B basis.

Day 6

This morning you will be transferred to the train station where you will take the scheduled train to Hatton. The train lines were built by the British in the 19th Century and the journey will transport you back in time. On arrival you will be met and transferred to stay at Tea Trails Castlereagh for the next 3 nights.

The tea country is Sri Lanka at its most dramatic: a land of gurgling mountain streams and steep hillsides cloaked in luminous green tea, sweet-scented Cyprus and Eucalyptus trees. Hatton is set in the southern highlands with a number of large tea estates with small colonial bungalows as a base to explore the area. The area is dotted with Hindu temples and statues of Ghandi reminding you of the Hindu culture here when the early tea planters brought over southern Indians in the 1850s to pick the tea. Here you can climb the famous Adams Peak, visit tea factories, go white water rafting and mountain biking.



Ceylon Tea Trails is a collection of five carefully restored planter's bungalows, built between 1890 and 1939 each bungalow has its own style. Castlereagh is the most eclectic and individual bungalow and was built in 1925 on the shore of the Castlereagh Reservoir. Nestled in a wooded dell close to the water, this century old bungalow offers unrivalled water views and five superb garden suites to suit every taste. In the extensive grounds a swimming pool, croquet lawn and summerhouses can be found where tea is served and a good book enjoyed until the sun goes down over the water and it's time for sundowners on the terrace overlooking the lake.



You will spend 3 nights at Tea Trails Castlereagh on a full-board basis

Day 9

This morning you will be driven to the coast to Galle to stay at Why House for the next 6 nights.

Galle is the capital of the south and one of Sri Lanka's most cosmopolitan towns. With a spectacular setting on the south western tip of the island, Galle is surrounded by palm fringed beaches and forest clad hills towards the interior. The city has had a chequered and varied history, with a plethora of influences and cultures crossing over the centuries, leaving a vibrant and diverse way of life. Famous for its UNESCO protected 17th century Dutch Fort, the old part of the city is enjoying an artistic renaissance with the town and the beautiful beaches around it dotted with luxurious villas and classy boutique hotels.



An idyllic tropical hideaway, Why House is situated within an incredibly verdant garden, rich with the colours of exotic plants and the aromas of spice trees. The luxury boutique hotel has just 8 double ensuite rooms, 3 suites in the main house, 2 romantic cabanas in the garden and 3 garden rooms. The hotel has a huge pool and is the perfect location for relaxing whilst the lovely Wijaya Beach is a short walk away. The hotel also has a fantastic restaurant, where the chef provides an array of dishes from local Sri Lankan cuisine to Western or Asian dishes all made from locally sourced food.



You will spend 6 nights at Why House on a B&B basis

Day 15

Today you will be driven to Colombo, where you will check in for the international flight home.
