

CYCLING TOUR

13 Nights/14 Days



What better way to experience Sri Lanka pedaling to the open wind and road on two-wheels.

For cycling enthusiasts or those who wish to view the beautiful island of Sri Lanka in a new light, this cycling tour offers a perfect opportunity!

Explore the coast of Negombo and witness colorful fishing boats, friendly people and beautiful landscapes. Leave to Dankotuwa, where you can embark on a morning cycle ride through small back roads and the stunning forest to the border of Kuliyaipitiya. Ride alongside lakes and canals towards Sigiriya and enjoy a climb of the majestic rock fortress. Returning to the cycle ride, you can explore Polonnaruwa and follow through landscapes dotted with forests and villages, with around 30km on inner roads.

Tour includes the hire of your bike in the overall cost of the holiday. You don't need to bring your own or pay extra to hire one locally. We also provide a support vehicle, spare parts and take care of day to day bike maintenance. All you need bring is your own helmet.

DAY 01 | AIRPORT – NEGOMBO

On Arrival at Colombo International airport you will be welcomed by our representative / chauffeur guide / national guide. Upon completion of arrival formalities leave for your chosen hotel at **Negombo**.

The primary resort town on the western coast of Sri Lanka, Negombo is highly sought after for its long stretches of golden, palm fringed beaches and the buzzing, cosmopolitan lifestyle of the town and of course, its close proximity to the airport at Katunayake. The economy of the town and the region is mainly based on tourism and its centuries-old fishing industry which continues to thrive today – making it a paradise for seafood lovers.

Overnight stay at Jetwing Sea - Negombo

DAY 02 | NEGOMBO

Morning, spend some time to relax and freshen up.

Late afternoon we take our first ride exploring the coast of Negombo with its colorful fishing boats and friendly people. A gentle introduction to Sri Lanka's beautiful landscapes, the ride covers some 10 kilometers before we head back to the hotel before dark.

Overnight stay at Jetwing Sea - Negombo

DAY 03 | NEGOMBO – DAMBULLA - HABARANA

After breakfast leave to **Dankotuwa**, where we begin our morning's cycle ride through small back roads (15km) and lovely forest to the border of Kuliyaipitiya. The Bus will pick you up from Kuliyaipitiya and transfer you to Sigiriya which is a UNESCO world heritage site.

Upon arrival explore **Dambulla Golden cave temple** (AUS \$ 15 per person) that has a great series of caves which hide an incredible collection of temples, Buddhist images and Hindu sculptures that date back to the 1st century BC.

Overnight stay at The Deer Park Hotel, Girithale

DAY 04 | HABARANA – SIGIRIYA – (MINNERIYA) POLONNARUWA – GIRITHALE

Early morning cycle ride alongside lakes and canals to Sigiriya.

Then time to climb **Sigiriya** (AUS \$ 43 per person) - A **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. Sigiriya is the 'Sky Fortress' of King Kassapa, whose 5th century ruins are one of the country's major archaeological attractions.

Returning to the base of Lion Rock, we drive (45mins) to Minneriya where we commence our second ride of the day. Upon arrival proceed on a game drive to **Minneriya National Park** (AUS \$ 58 per person)

Back on our bikes we ride to the ancient city of Polonnaruwa. Our route follows through a landscape dotted with forests and villages, with around 30km on inner roads.
Girithale Hotel

Overnight stay at The Deer Park Hotel, Girithale

DAY 05 | POLONNARUWA - GIRITHALE

After breakfast transfer to **Polonnaruwa** (AUS \$ 36 per person) site which is the 12th Century Kingdom of Sri Lanka where the city is still blessed with a number of ancient monuments. We spend this morning cycling around some of the area's major archaeological sites, before continuing on bike after lunch to explore the villages near **Parakkrama Lake**, one of the country's most impressive ancient reservoirs.

Overnight stay at The Deer Park Hotel, Girithale

DAY 06 | POLONNARUWA – GIRITHALE – PALLEGAMA - KANDY

After breakfast head towards **Girithale** by Bus and we begin our day's ride by cycling south towards **Pallegama**. Our ride ends here and we get back in the vehicle and proceed to Kandy.

Overnight stay at Earl's Regent Hotel, Kandy

DAY 07 | KANDY

With no cycling planned for today, we have some free time to explore **Kandy** where is renowned as a centre of spiritual and cultural importance. The city is home to the famous 'Temple of the Tooth' (AUS \$ 15 per person) whose jeweled shrine is believed to hold the left canine of the lord Buddha. It was also the last capital of the Sinhala Kings and still retains much of its old world charm; its wonderful mix of color and vibrancy making it an ideal spot to explore at our own pace.

Overnight stay at Earl's Regent Hotel, Kandy

DAY 08 | KANDY – NUWARA ELIYA

After breakfast we drive for around two hours through a picturesque landscape of rolling, verdant hills into Sri Lanka's central highlands. On our journey we will stop at a tea estate to learn about tea picking and processing and to see the impressive **Ramboda Falls**.

Thereafter we are back at the tea estate and there is the option for keen cyclists to ride on good tarmac for the final 18km section up to our hotel in **Nuwara Eliya**. Those not riding will make the journey by bus. Nestling amongst the lush, cool hills, nearly 1,900 meters above sea level, Nuwara Eliya was once a summer retreat for the British and still retains a distinctly colonial feel that harks back to its 19th century origins.

Overnight stay at Jetwing St Andrews, Nuwara Eliya

DAY 09 | NUWARA ELIYA - WELLAWAYA

After breakfast check out the hotel and head towards **Wellawaya** which is a small crossroads town located in Monaragala District. Rest of the day is open for selected activities. you can opt from trekking to the top of Diyaluma Falls and having breakfast 628 ft above sea level; or taking a cycle tour through the scenic village to dive into a hidden waterfall with a natural pool; or descend to the remains of a **Biso Kotuwa** – a queen bath made during 12th century AD; or visit the statues embedded into stone at the **Buduruvagala temple**.

Overnight stay at Jetwing Kaduruketha, Wellawaya.

DAY 10 | WELLAWAYA - YALA

Turning south-east this morning by Bus. After about two hours' drive, we start our cycle route that leads us to the pleasant town of **Tissamaharama**, once the capital of the Sinhalese Kingdom of Ruhuna. Lying close to the beautiful and abundant landscapes of **Yala National Park**, our afternoon arrival provides us with a chance to enjoy an optional game drive through the park (AUS \$ 58 per person).

One of Sri Lanka's more popular reserves, Yala is home to a rich diversity of ecosystems and is blessed with an abundance of wildlife, including sloth bears, one of the world's highest concentrations of leopards and over 215 species of birds.

Overnight stay at Jetwing Yala

DAY 11 | YALA – MATARA - MIRISSA

After breakfast proceed towards **Mirissa**. Today we drive for around two hours to a point beyond Tangalle and from here, we cycle following back roads heading to the west. Our cycle ride ends in **Matara** where we get back on the bus again and drive to the hotel in Mirissa.

Overnight stay at Mandara Resort, Mirissa

DAY 12 | MIRISSA – UNAWATUNA - MIRISSA

This morning we cycle from Mirissa through the back roads. The ride then finishes later at **Weligama Bay** where we plan to have lunch. From here we will return to our hotel in **Mirissa** by train or bus.

Evening proceed on a city tour in Galle where is the best preserved Dutch Fort in the world.

Overnight stay at Mandara Resort, Mirissa

DAY 13 | MIRISSA - COLOMBO

After breakfast check out the hotel and head towards Colombo which is the commercial capital of Sri Lanka. Upon arrival, proceed on a city tour in Colombo with shopping.

DAY 14 | COLOMBO - AIRPORT

Morning at leisure. Thereafter proceed to Airport for the departure flight.

******* End of Services *******

TOUR COST

PERIOD - 01.11.2018 - 30.04.2019

NO OF PAX	PER PERSON (DBL SHARING) AUS \$
02 PAX	2140

Price Inclusive of:

- ❖ Accommodation 04 star hotels on Bed & Breakfast Basis starting with breakfast on Day 02 and ending with Breakfast on Day 14. Cost may change.
- ❖ Arrival, departure transfers and the tour as per the itinerary in an air conditioned Car accompanied with an English speaking licensed Chauffeur guide.
- ❖ Cycling costs
- ❖ Passenger Insurance (Vehicle)
- ❖ Fuel, Parking & highway fees
- ❖ Complimentary SIM Card on arrival
- ❖ Garlands on arrival
- ❖ All currently applicable government taxes and service charges

Price Exclusions:

- ❖ Cost of Entrance Tickets & Jeep hire charges to the sites visited in the itinerary.
- ❖ Lunch & Dinner cost
- ❖ Peak period supplements
- ❖ International air-fare, airport tax or any kind of insurance cover other than what is stated.
- ❖ Items of personal nature like drinks, laundry, telephone calls, tips, etc.
- ❖ Any other Sites not mentioned in the itinerary.
- ❖ Any other item not specifically mentioned above in 'PRICE INCLUSIONS'.
- ❖ Visa fees to Sri Lanka.