

Skylink Travel & Tours Ltd.

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SRILANKA RAMAYAN TRAIL – 15 Days

Depart: 18/02/2012, 18/11/2012

Return: 03/03/2012, 02/12/2012

Adult: from £1575 per person

USD / CAD from \$2520 (Joining from U.K.)

USD / CAD from \$1800 (Joining from Colombo, Sri Lanka)

Itinerary:

Day 1: London – Colombo: UK Departure

Day 2: Negombo: Welcome on arrival at the Bandaranaike International Airport by a representative and transfer to Negombo. In the afternoon make a city tour of **Negombo**. Visit a Hindu Kovil at Sea Street. Attend a Pooja Ceremony to invoke blessings. Dinner and overnight stay in **Negombo**.

Day 3: Negombo: After breakfast do an excursion to Chilaw. Visit the Manavari Lingam, situated approximately 10 km from Chilaw. Manavari is the first lingam installed and prayed by Lord Rama. There after visit the **Koneswaran Temple** approximately 12 kilometers from Chilaw town. On your return visit the Sri Muneswaram Hindu Kovil, which attracts visitors from all over Sri Lanka. There after return to Negombo. Rest of the day at Leisure. Dinner and overnight stay in **Negombo**.

Day 4: Kandy: After breakfast leave for visit **Yudhaganawa**, this particular piece of land can never bear any vegetation as this served as the battlefield and had borne the brunt of destruction. Visit **Dunuwila**, is the place from where Lord Rama fired the brahmaastharam at King Ravana, which eventually killed him. Dhunu means arrow and wila means lake. This place got its name because Lord Rama fired his arrow from this lake. Leave for Kandy. Dinner and overnight stay in Kandy.

Day 5: Kandy: Breakfast at the hotel. Drive to the elephant orphanage in **Pinnawela**. See the elephants in nature, being fed, working & bathing in the nearby river. Make a ride on an elephant. Visit a spice garden to see different spices and how some of these spices are grown and processed. Proceed to Kandy. Visit the university area & the botanical gardens in **Peradeniya**. In Kandy visit the upper lake, Kandy Market area, etc. In the evening witness a show of cultural performances. Dinner and overnight stay in Kandy.

Day 6: Kandy: Breakfast at the hotel. Visit to **Seetha Kotuwa**, the place where the city of Lankapura once stood. The city had a beautiful palace for queen Mandothari surrounded by waterfalls, streams and varieties of flora and fauna. Seetha Devi was kept in this palace until she was moved to Ashoka Vatika. Seetha Kotuwa means Seetha's fort and got its name because of Seetha Devi's stay here. Dinner and overnight stay in Kandy.

Day 7: Nuwara Eliya: After breakfast make a visit to the Temple of the Tooth Relic of Lord Buddha. Then drive to Nuwara eliya. En-route visit the **Sri Baktha Hanuman temple at Ramboda**. The image of Lord Hanuman here is 16 feet. In the afternoon do a sight seeing tour of Nuwara eliya. Also visit **Gayathri peedam**. It is believed to be the place from where King Ravana's son Meghanath propitiated Lord Shiva with penance and pooja's and in turn was granted super natural powers by Lord Shiva. Dinner and overnight stay in Nuwara eliya.

Day 8: Nuwara Eliya: After breakfast visit a tea factory and a plantation to see the tea manufacturing process. Enjoy a freshly brewed cup of "Ceylon Tea". Thereafter make an excursion to **Hakgala** Botanical Gardens. The 'Rama-Sitha' epic also raises very concrete evidence that "Sitha" while in Ravana's" custody has often used this garden to spend most of her leisure time while longing for her husband and home.

Visit the **Seetha Amman Kovil**. Sitha Amman Kovil is located about 1km away from the Hakgala Botanical Gardens. This temple is believed to mark the spot where Sitha, was held captive by her abductor, King Ravana. Dinner and over night stay in **Nuwara eliya**.

Day 9: Bandarawela: After breakfast leave for **Bandarawela**, en route visit The **Divurumpola Temple**. Divurumpola means a place of oath. Sitadevi, after her liberation from King Ravana underwent a test to prove here chastity by offering herself to fire. Visit **Ishtripura / Konda Kattu Gala**. Ishtripura means an area of women in Sinhala. This was one of the places to which King Ravana shifted Seetha Devi as a precautionary measure, which he was forced to take by Lord Hanuman's advent. Seetha Devi took a bath in the stream close by and had dried her hair sitting on a rock and put clips to her hair, hence this rock is known as Konda Kattu Gala. Dinner and overnight stay in Bandarawela.

Day 10: Kataragama: After breakfast in Ella visit **Ravana Caves**, these tunnels prove beyond doubt the architectural brilliance of King Ravana. The tunnels served as a quick means of transport through the hills and also as a secret passage. They networked all the important cities, airports and dairy farms. A close look at these tunnels indicates that they are man-made and not natural formations. Dinner and overnight stay in Kataragama.

Day 11: Galle / Hikkaduwa: After breakfast visit **Kataragama Temple**, Sri Lanka's largest and most patronized Hindu Temple. Pilgrims from all over Sri Lanka, come to worship here. Attend a Pooja ceremony to invoke blessings. This is the temple of Lord Karthikeya Subramaniam. Leave for Galle. En route in **Ussangoda**, according to Ramayana, after meeting Seetha Devi Lord Hanuman decided to test the strength of the mighty King Ravana and his army of Rakshasas. In the event that unfolded Lord Hanuman's tail was set on fire by the Rakshasas, who in turn went on to torch some parts of King Ravana's empire. Ussangoda is one of the torched areas, which is said to have been an airport used by King Ravana. Dinner and overnight stay in Galle / Hikkaduwa.

Day 12: Beruwala / Kalutara: After breakfast leave for **Kalutara**. En route visit Rumassala, at different points of time during the war both Lord Rama and Luxshmana were hit by powerful arrows, fell unconscious and to bring them back to life Lord Hanuman was instructed to fetch the life saving herbs from Himalaya. Hanuman went to the hill, lifted the whole hill and brought it, as he was not able to remember and identify the life saving herbs alone. Parts from the hill fell on five places in Sri Lanka. Dinner and overnight stay in Beruwala / Kalutara.

Day 13: Beruwala / Kalutara: Breakfast at hotel. Day at leisure. Dinner and overnight stay in Beruwala / Kalutara.

Day 14: Colombo: After breakfast leave for **Colombo**, in **Kalubovila** visit the **Panchamuga Anjaneyar Temple**. This is the first Anjaneyar Temple in Sri Lanka and also the only Panchamuga (five faced) Anjaneyar Temple in Sri Lanka. Afterwards make a sightseeing tour of **Colombo**. Visit a Buddhist Temple, a Hindu Temple, Pettah, Fort, Museum, Galle Face Green, Independence Square. Discover the city & explore the shopping malls, such as House of Fashion, Odel, etc. Evening at leisure. Dinner and overnight stay in **Colombo**.

Day 15: Colombo – London: Breakfast and transfer to airport for onward flight.

Hotel

Negombo	:	Goldi Sands Beach Hotel or Similar
Kandy	:	Randholee Resort Amaya Hills or Similar
Nuwara eliya	:	Hill Club Hotel or Similar
Bandarawela	:	Orient Hotel 3* or Similar
Tissa / Kataragama	:	Mandara Rosen or Similar
Galle / Hikkaduwa	:	Citrus Hotel or Similar
Beruwala / Kalutara	:	Kani Lanka Resort & Spa or Similar
Colombo (Airport)	:	Pegasus Reef Hotel or Similar

Package includes:

International economy class return ticket

Meeting at the airport upon arrival and assistance during the stay.

Private transport in Air con coach for all mentioned transfers

Service of English Speaking Guide

Accommodation in mentioned hotels in air condition rooms with breakfast and dinner in sharing Twin/Triple.

Meal Plan start from day 02 dinner to departure day breakfast

Entrance fees

Package does not include:

Visa Fee

Travel Insurance

Lunch and beverages

Extras of personal nature.

Tips and gratuities.

Extra services other than those specified

Booking Conditions

- 1) It is our most important aim that you enjoy your holiday and that we earn your trust. However, we are not responsible for any cancellation due to any industrial disputes, Technical failure of any type of transport we use, loss of earnings, late arrivals or force majeure, or any items beyond our control
- 2) Our normal cancellation charges apply as a percentage of the total holiday cost. If you cancel the holiday we will require notice in writing for any cancellation:

56 days or more before departure	Loss of deposit only
55 to 28 days before departure	50%
27 to 14 days before departure	80%
13 to the day of departure	100%
No show	100%
- 3) If we cancel the holiday for any reason: Full refund of money paid
- 4) We are not responsible for your luggage, personal money or belongings. We advise that if lockers are available in the hotel please use them. Do not have luxury or expensive items with you whilst you are on holiday.
- 5) During the tour, the tour manager's decision will be final. We are not responsible for unavailability of any events or festival or attractions.
- 6) It is the passenger's responsibility to have the appropriate documents. (i.e.: Passports & Visas)
- 7) We advise that you obtain travel insurance. Also obtain EHIC form from Post Office. EHIC is not travel insurance.
- 8) If due to any circumstances you no longer wish to continue the tour, there will be no refund. Triple room, meals or any other items on request basis only and subject only to availability at designated hotels or accommodation.
- 9) Luggage allowance only 20KG per person and 1 suit case per person.
- 10) If any surcharges, e.g. Fuel increase, airport taxes and/or any other costs not envisaged by us at the time of the booking are added by any government or transport provider will be passed on to you in the final invoice.
- 11) We have right to operate for seating rotating system during coach journey.
- 12) Triple room might have bed and mattress
- 13) Non refundable deposit per person is required at the time of booking.
Coach Holidays: If holidays cost up to £250- £75 deposit, holidays cost up to £500- deposit £100, holidays cost up to £700- deposit £150.
Air Holidays: Cost up to £500- deposit £250, holidays cost up to £999- deposit £325, holidays cost up to £1999- deposit £750, holidays cost above then £2000- deposit £1000.
- 14) I accept and agree all risks associated with the journey and further agree to abide by the terms and conditions of Skylink Travel & Tours Ltd., as described here and its brochures and publication. In The event of illness, accident, weather, political unrest, flight cancellations due to reasons, change in the airport or airlines taxes, cancellation of helicopter flight and other factors beyond their control, I will not hold Skylink Travel & Tours Ltd., its agents associate or employees responsible or liable for damages. I understand and I travel at my own risk.