



Australian Institute
of International Affairs
Victoria

SRI LANKA STUDY TOUR

6 – 16 March 2025



Tour Highlights

Thursday 6 March, Colombo

You will be met at the airport and transferred to the Cinnamon Grand Colombo Hotel

Friday 7 March, Colombo

9:00 AM: Colombo Port City tour and presentation by Senior Management

11:30 AM: Colombo City Tour with guide

1:30 PM: Lunch (*included*)

Afternoon: Meetings with relevant officials

6:00 PM: Reception and briefing at the Australian High Commission

8:00 PM: Dinner (*included*)

Saturday 8 March, Galle

9:00 AM: Travel to Galle in air-conditioned coach

11:00 AM: Check-in at the Jetwing Lighthouse Hotel

1:00 PM: Lunch on the ocean-facing terrace

3:00 PM: Guided tour of the Galle Fort (back in hotel by 6 PM)

6:30 PM: Cocktail reception hosted by Prakash Mirchandani

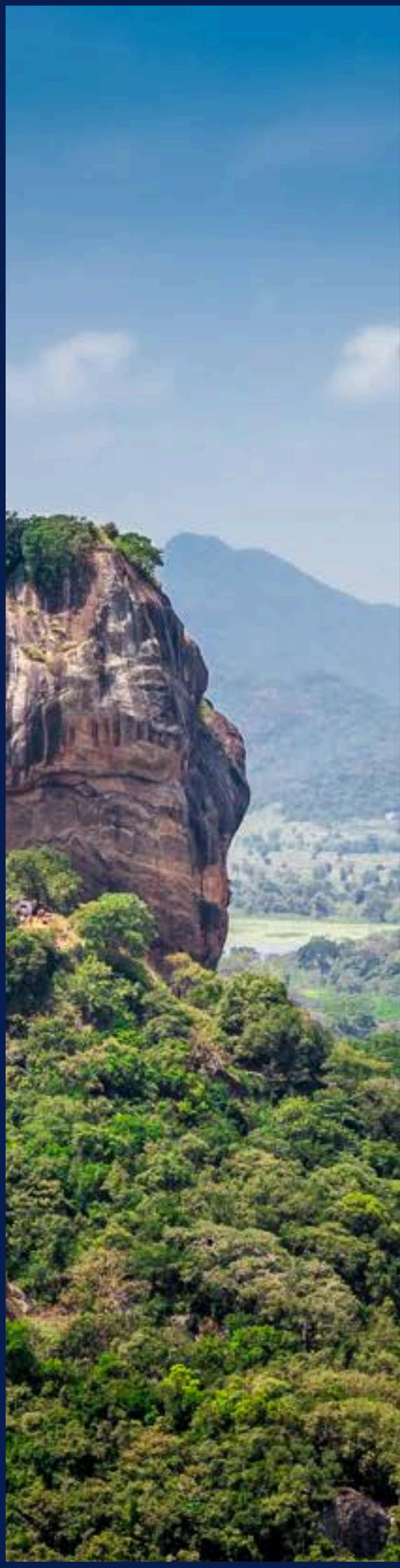
8:00 PM: Dinner at Jetwing Lighthouse Hotel (*included*)

Sunday 9 March, Galle

10:00 AM: Hotel check-out and tour of:

- Matara Fort
- Star Fort (Van Eyck's Redoubt)
- Dutch Period Market
- Famous Weligama Beach and Bay





Sunday 9 March, Travel to Colombo (cont.)

12:00 PM: Light lunch at Weligama Bay

2:00 PM: Travel by air-conditioned coach to Colombo

6:00 PM: Sunset drink at the world-famous Galle Face Hotel (at members' cost)

8:00 PM: Traditional Sri Lankan Dinner at "Nugagama" outdoor village-style Sri Lankan restaurant at the Cinnamon Grand Hotel (*included*)

Monday 10 March, Colombo

9:00 AM: Depart for Akbar Brothers Tea packing plant

9:45 AM: Presentation and tour of the Akbar Brothers facility

12:00 PM: Light lunch (*included*) with a talk by subject matter expert, Ms. Shehara de Silva, on "Transnational Education in Sri Lanka – Opportunities for Australia"

2:00 PM: Tour of Edith Cowan University, Colombo Campus with a presentation

3:45 PM: Roundtable discussion with the Lakshman Kadirgamar Institute of International Relations and Strategic Studies

7:30 PM: Western / Pan Asian dinner (*included*)

Tuesday 11 March, Ratmalana & Colombo

8:30 AM: Depart for Roundtable with the Geographical Cartographer think tank at the Kotelawala Defence University

12:00 PM: Lunch on the famous, ocean-facing terrace of the Mount Lavinia Hotel

2:30 PM: Visit to "Virtusa" a global IT company with Sri Lankan roots, including a presentation by "SLASSCOMM", the country's apex body representing the IT industry in the country

Afternoon: Meetings with relevant officials

7:30 PM: Dinner (*included*)



Wednesday 12 March, Colombo

9:30 AM: Depart for “Linea Intimo” an apparel manufacturing facility near Colombo owned by the world-renowned Sri Lankan apparel and textile conglomerate “MAS Holdings”

10:15 AM: Presentation and tour of “Linea Intimo” by Senior Management

12:30 PM: Light lunch (*included*)

Afternoon: Meetings with officials

7:30 PM: Dinner (*included*)

Thursday 13 March, Habarana

8:30 AM: Travel to Dambulla Rock Caves with Buddhist Cave paintings and temples

12:00 PM: Lunch (*included*)

Evening: Dinner (*included*)

Overnight stay at Cinnamon Lodge Hotel in Habarana

Friday 14 March, Habarana

Visit to the ancient Sigiriya Rock Fortress and guided walk around the base and surrounds

(The strenuous long climb to the top and back is not included for scheduling and safety reasons. No climbing will be permitted)

Elephant viewing safari (*included*)

Evening: Dinner (*included*)

Overnight stay at Cinnamon Lodge Hotel in Habarana

Saturday 15 March, Travel to Colombo

8:30 AM: Visit to the Ancient City of Polonnaruwa

9.40 AM: Guided tour of Polonnaruwa

1:45 PM: Depart for Colombo

7:00 PM: Arrive in Colombo

8:30 PM: Farewell Dinner and de-brief (*included*)

Overnight stay at the Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo

Sunday 16 March, Depart Colombo



Costs & Expenses

Throughout the Study Tour we will be staying in 4 * and 5 * Star Hotels

- ▶ Single Room Occupancy \$4,700 per person
- ▶ Shared Room Occupancy \$3,670 per person

Payment

- ▶ A non-refundable 40% deposit is required by Sunday, 5 January 2025
- ▶ Final Payment must be made by Monday, 20 January 2025

What is included?

- 10 nights of 4 * and 5 * Star Hotel Accommodation
- All breakfasts and dinners, plus most lunches
- Transport in a private, air-conditioned 33-seater coach
- English speaking guides
- Private arrival and departure transfers from the airport to the hotel
- All government taxes
- All hotels have Wi-Fi, Laundry Service and en-suite bathrooms

What is not included?

- Personal consumables such as alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, laundry, etc.
- Travel Insurance
- Health Insurance
- Lunches when specified
- International flights
- Visas
- Early check-in or late check-out
- Local mobile SIM card
- Any services not mentioned above

You are responsible for your own international travel to and from Australia.

Health Notes

Please contact your local GP regarding advice on inoculations and other health matters on visiting Sri Lanka.

We strongly recommend that you consider having vaccinations before you travel. At least eight weeks before you depart, make an appointment with your doctor or travel clinic for a basic health check-up, and to discuss your travel plans and any implications for your health, particularly if you have an existing medical condition.

Visas

To enter Sri Lanka, you'll need a visa in the form of an Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA). You should do this before you travel, as there are limited facilities to obtain an ETA on arrival at Colombo's Bandaranaike International Airport: <https://eta.gov.lk/>

Members are responsible for obtaining their ETAs.

Insurance

AllA Victoria requires all Members of the Study Group to obtain comprehensive travel and health insurance to obtain a place on the Tour. Your policy needs to cover all overseas medical costs, including medical evacuation. The Australian Government won't pay for these costs.

For more information visit:
<https://www.smartraveller.gov.au/destinations/asia/sri-lanka>



Please note that there will inevitably small changes to our itinerary as to meeting times although the travel dates within Sri Lanka are finalised.

Please also note that there may be small changes in the cost of the Study Tour due to Currency Movements and any changes in local Taxes. But once the full amount of the Tour has been paid, there will be no more adjustments.

It is a condition of booking a Study Tour with us, and it is your responsibility to ensure, that you are adequately insured at your own cost for the full duration of the Study Tour. We strongly recommend it covers cancellation, curtailment, personal liability and loss of luggage and personal effects. Health insurance is also required – please see brochure.

