

a rock shrine, has four Buddha statues, two seated, one standing and one reclining and Parakrama Bahu statue are examples of Sinhalese stone carver.

Lunch at a restaurant in Polonnaruwa

Evening climb the ***Sigiriya Rock Fortress** - is home to the 5th Century "Fortress in the Sky" which is perhaps the most fantastic single wonder of the Island. It is also known as Lion Rock because of the huge lion that used to stand at the entrance to the fortress. Within its triple-moated defence the huge rock rises almost to a sheer height of 500ft. On its summit are the foundations of what was once a great and sumptuous palace and gardens complete with swimming pool. On one of the stairways the only known ancient work of Sinhala secular painting survived in the form of Frescoes of life sized damsels in all the freshness and delicacy of their original colour.

Dinner & Overnight stay at Green Paradise Hotel, Dambulla – 5*

DAY 04 -

DAMBULLA-SIGIRIYA-MATALE-KANDY

(BLD)

After breakfast proceed to Kandy. En route visit a ***Spice Garden in Matale** to see the different spices, which Sri Lanka is famous for. You will be introduced to different spices and shown how some of these spices are grown and processed.

Lunch at a restaurant in Kandy

On arrival city tour of Kandy, including Upper Lake Drive, Market Square, Arts & Crafts Centre, Gem Museum. ***Kandy** - the hill capital, venue of the annual Perahera. The last stronghold of the Sinhala Kings was finally ceded to the British in 1815. Kandy is an example of the Buddhism's influence in Sri Lanka today. Temple's shrines and monasteries keeping alive Buddhist traditions are everywhere.

Visit ***Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic** - ever since 4th Century A.D, when the Buddha's Tooth was brought to Sri Lanka hidden from sacrilegious hands in an Orissan princess' hair, the Relic has grown in repute and holiness in Sri Lanka and throughout the Buddhist world. It is considered Sri Lanka's most prized possession.

Witness a cultural show featuring various dance groups of Sri Lanka

Dinner & Overnight stay at Mahaweli Reach Hotel, Kandy – 5*

DAY 05 -

KANDY-NUWARA ELIYA

(BLD)

After breakfast visit ***Royal Botanical Gardens - Peradeniya** - 147 acres in extent; Started in 1374 as a pleasure garden of the Kings of Gampola and Kandy. There are more than 5,000 species of trees, plants and creepers. Some rare and endemic as well as flora from the tropical world are found in the gardens. Spice Garden and Orchid House are popular with tourists. There are 5 Palm Avenues beautifying the gardens, the earliest and tallest Palm Avenue (Royal Palm Avenue) was planted in 1905 and the Double Coconuts from the Seashells Island, with the largest seed of all plants in the world is one such avenue.

Proceed to Nuwara Eliya. Lunch for Star City Tours group at Blue Field Restaurant

En route visit Tea Plantation & Tea Factory

***Tea Factory & *Tea Plantation** - Tea was first planted in Sri Lanka in 1824 at the Botanical Gardens at Peradeniya, when a few plants were brought from China. More were introduced from Assam in 1839. In 1867 a Scottish Planter named James Taylor planted tea seedlings on 8 hectares of forest land, in the Loolcondura Estate. In 1873, the tea export industry of Sri Lanka began with a modest 23lbs being shipped to London. Tea will grow well only on rolling terrain and is classified by elevation into low

grown, medium grown, high grown, into 3 main groups. In 1996 Sri Lanka has produced 258 million kgs. of tea and has earned Rs. 34,068 million by exporting 244 million kgs. of tea.

Afternoon proceed to Nuwara Eliya & enjoy the scenic beauty of hill country

***Nuwara Eliya** - The 'Little England' of Sri Lanka, is set against beautiful backdrops of Mountains, Valleys, Waterfalls and Tea Plantations. It is supposed to be one of the coolest places in the Island, but it is really just like an English spring day, although the temperature does drop at night. All around Nuwara Eliya you will see evidence of the British influence, houses like country cottages or Queen Ann style mansions. The Victoria Park, in the middle of the town, is a lovely place for a stroll or a picnic and is also good for Birding as you get some rare birds in this Park. Seasons may be absent elsewhere in Sri Lanka, but here you can read them by the flowers, which bloom in the spring (march to May) and the fall (August and September). These are the "seasons" when low-country folk flock to Nuwara Eliya to escape the sea level heat and humidity.

Dinner & Overnight stay at Jetwing St Andrews, Nuwara Eliya – Colonial

DAY 06 - NUWARA ELIYA-GALLE (BLD)

After breakfast proceed to Galle

En – route visit ***Ella Gap**

Evening at leisure

Dinner & Overnight stay at Jetwing Lighthouse, Galle – 5*

DAY 07 - NUWARA ELIYA-GALLE (BLD)

After breakfast , Star City Tours group commence a city tour of Galle

***Galle** - Sri Lanka's most historically interesting town is Galle. It was a major port until about 100 years, but today still handles shipping and sailing boats in the natural harbour.

Stroll around the lighthouse and harbour or visit the old town where you can see the traditional lace makers and wood carvers and purchase some the finest souvenirs.

***The Dutch Fort - Galle** - The South Coast's major city is Galle, whose oldest landmark is the massive Portuguese and Dutch Fort which is a "World Heritage Site" in which the central city is contained. But the city may be much older. Some scholars believe it to be the "Tarshish" of the Old Testament, to which King Solomon sent his merchant vessels, and to which Jonah fled from the Lord. Today, the 90-acre Galle Fort shows no evidence of the Portuguese founders. The Dutch incorporated the Portuguese northern wall in a great rampart in 1663. A second, taller wall was built inside of it. Between the two walls, a covered passage connected the central bastion with the Fort's two half bastion's overlooking the sea. The Dutch also installed a sophisticated drainage system, complete with brick-lined underground sewers that were flushed twice a day by the high and low tides. The original gate to the fort was by the harbour. It is still there, marked by the British Coat-of-arms on the front and the Dutch V.O.C. (Vereenigde Oost Indische Compagnie) with the Coat-of-arms with a rooster crest, is on the inner side of the Fort.

Evening at leisure

Dinner & Overnight stay at Jetwing Lighthouse, Galle – 5*

DAY 08 - GALLE-COLOMBO (BLD)

After breakfast Proceed to Colombo Lunch at a restaurant

Afternoon commence a city & shopping tour in Colombo

***Colombo** - a drive through the city taking you to the busy commercial areas as well as the tree-lined residential, Cinnamon Gardens. Visit Fort, the former British administrative center and military garrison, Sea Street - the Goldsmith's quarters in the heart of Pettah, the Bazaar area, where is also a Hindu Temple with elaborate stone carvings, and the Dutch Church of Wolfendhal dating back to 1749. Also visit the BMICH, see the replica of Avukana Buddha & the Independence Square.

***Shopping** in Colombo.....visit ***ODEL** Unlimited provides ample opportunity indulge, not only in shopping for designer wear apparel for the whole family, but also take taste buds on a voyage of discovery.

***BAREFOOT** discover yourself at Barefoot - Toys Bags Clothes Handloom Fabric Sarongs Sarees - Household Linen Art Photography Books Furniture Gallery Café:

***House of Fashion**, a large fourstorey mall which has a wide variety of apparel, handbags, luggage and home decor at very reasonable prices. Their lingerie department is worth a visit. Soft clingy bits and pieces in vibrant shades of tangerine, violet and turquoise vie for attention with similar items in pale pastels shades mauves, baby pink and pale cream. Need to get yourself designer accessories? No, problem. Many of the malls have the latest creations from Louis Vuitton, Gucci, Longchamps and Prada to name just a few. Of course you have to pay more for the real thing, which is also available at selected stores, but if you don't mind a lookalike, some excellent options are available.

Dinner & Overnight stay at Galadari Hotel, Colombo – 5*

DAY 09 -

COLOMBO-AIRPORT / DEPARTURE

(B)

After breakfast free for some last minute shopping

STAR CITY TOURS group will be transferred to the airport for your departure flight back to Singapore.

(Lunch will not be included)

<< END OF TOUR >>

QUOTATION RATES IN SINGAPORE DOLLARS PER PERSON TWIN SHARING, BASED ON 2 PAX	
Package	Cost Per Person sharing Double
9 Days / 8 Nights Amazing Sri Lanka	1998
SERVICES INCLUDE:	SERVICES EXCLUDE:
RETURN FLIGHT WITH TAXES AIRPORT HOTEL AIRPORT TRANSFERS TRAVEL INSURANCE – SILVER PLAN. 8 Nights HOTEL Accommodations as per the itinerary FULL BOARD meals commencing with breakfast on DAY 02 Transportation in an A/C Car Services of an English Speaking chauffeur guide Entrance fee for the tourist sites mentioned in the itinerary	Any expenses of a personal nature Visa fee's Tips
BEST COMPLIMENTS FROM STAR CITY TOURS PTE LTD	
* Mineral Water Bottles in the vehicle throughout the tour	