

# Sri Lanka Motorcycle Adventure

## 7 night tour

*“Embark on the adventure of a life time as you explore the pearl of the Indian Ocean! “*

Sri Lanka has long since been a destination full of allure to the eager explorer. The island is a treasure trove of amazing landscapes, culture, wildlife and history all accessible within a day's ride. On this trip you will have the unique opportunity of riding from the northern most point to the southern region of the island and experience everything in between!



### **Trip Summary:**

- **Duration:** 07 nights / 08 days in SL , Negombo to Negombo
- **Distance covered:** 950 miles (1,500 kms) approx
- **Roads:** grades A, B and gravel
- **Eligibility:** At least one year experience of riding a motorcycle. Valid International Riders License

## Day 01

On arrival at International Airport you will receive a warm Sri Lankan welcome. Thereafter you will be transferred to the hotel in Katunayake.

Negombo is a major city in Sri Lanka, located on the west coast of the island and at the mouth of the Negombo Lagoon. It is the second largest city in Western province after Colombo. It is one of the major commercial hubs in Sri Lanka of about 128,000 inhabitants in the city limits, approximately 37 km north of Colombo city. Negombo is known for its huge and old fishing industry with busy fish markets and sandy beaches.

Once you have checked in and rested briefly, meet outside and get acquainted with your Motor Bike. Once you are comfortable with your bike you are free to ride your bike and get accustomed to riding on the left side of the road with the support of an experienced guide rider.

Once you are confident with the arrangement you could make your way back to the hotel for some rest before the big day!

Standard: Dinner and Overnight Accommodation at Golden Star Hotel, Negombo or similar (2 Star+)

Superior: Dinner and Overnight Accommodation at Goldi Sands Hotel, Negombo or similar (3 Star)



## Day 02

Approximate riding Distance 200km

After Breakfast make your way to the lobby in your riding gear along with your luggage which will be transferred direct to the next hotel. You may use a small day bag to store your necessities which you could have on your person and access whilst on the days ride.

\*(Note: This will be the morning schedule for the days to come.)

Fire up your engines, toot your horns and roar away along the coastal road to Anuradhapura an ancient city which was the island's capital for over a millennium. Riding will be on 'A' roads with occasional use of 'B' roads.

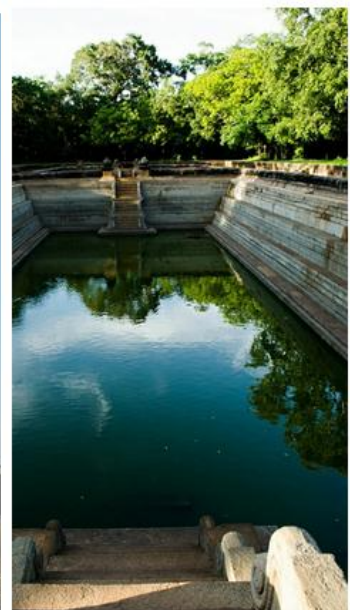
En route you will have the opportunity to stop at the Anawilundawa wetland which is a small bird sanctuary protected by the RAMSAR treaty. Proceed to Kalpitiya which is a peninsula extending 40 Km off mainland Sri Lanka and home to a large lagoon. Check-in to your hotel and rest.

Thereafter ride on to Anuradhapura on the A9 highway. This is the main artery that connects Jaffna to the rest of the island. It was closed and guarded on both sides for many years inhibiting free movement and is now a testament to the lasting peace in the island.

Anuradhapura was Sri Lanka's first capital established over two millennia ago is a testament to the grand civilization that existed in the time.

The city, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was the center of Theravada Buddhism for many centuries. The city lies 205 km north of the current capital Colombo in Sri Lanka's North Central Province, on the banks of the historic Malvathu Oya. It is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world and one of the eight World Heritage Sites of Sri Lanka.

It is believed that from the 4th century BC, it was the capital of the Sinhalese until the beginning of the



11th century AD. During this period it remained one of the most stable and durable centers of political power and urban life in South Asia. The ancient city, considered sacred to the Buddhist world, is today surrounded by monasteries covering an area of over sixteen square miles (40 km<sup>2</sup>).

(Optional sight-seeing in Anuradhapura.)

Standard: Dinner and Overnight Accommodation at Rajarata Hotel, Anuradhapura or similar (3 Star)

Superior: Dinner and Overnight Accommod. at Palm Garden Village Hotel, A'pura or similar (3 Star+ )

### *Day 03*

Approximate riding Distance 120 km

After breakfast leave for Trincomalee the famous coastal town of the east coast. You will ride through scenic lowland countryside and depending on the time of the year you will have the opportunity to witness the local farmers hard at work either planting or harvesting in their paddy fields. You will also pass by a few man made reservoirs used to irrigate the surrounding farm land.

Explore this coastal town famous for its natural harbor and the Koneswaram Kovil located on a vantage point overlooking the bay. If the group is interested a few other points of interest are the hot water wells in Kanniya and the Commonwealth War Graves.

Make your way to the hotel in Trincomalee and check-in for a well-earned night of rest.

Standard: Dinner and Overnight Accommodation at Sea Lotus park, Trincomalee or similar (2 Star)

Superior: Dinner and Overnight Accommodation at Chhaya Blu, Trincomalee or similar (3 Star +)



## Day 04

Approximate riding Distance 145 km

After breakfast head on to Habarana via Muttur and Kantale. Make a brief stop at the Kantale reservoir and witness the majesty of this man made reservoir.

Kantale Tank is an ancient reservoir built by King Aggabodhi II (604-614 AD) covering an extent of 3,750 hectares. Constructed for the irrigation of crops in this arid region, its source of water is the Mahaweli River, the longest in the island, which flows out to the sea at Trincomalee.

The Kantale tank supports a thriving inland fishing industry and has been designated an Important Bird Area (IBA) by Birdlife International in recognition of the large populations of water birds and birds of prey it supports. Large herds of elephants also visit the shores of the tank to cool off and have a drink in the evening from the surrounding jungle.

Optional Afternoon Safari of the Minneriya National park famous for the Gathering of Elephants that takes place between July and October.

Large numbers of Sri Lankan elephants are attracted to grass fields on the edges of the reservoir during the dry season. The Minneriya tank contributes to sustain a large herd of elephants. Individuals of elephants gathered here is numbering around 150-200. Some reports account number of elephants to as high as 700. They migrate here from Wasgamuwa National Park and benefited from food and shelter of the park's forest. Tourists visit Minneriya largely because of elephants, especially in dry season.

Standard: Dinner and Overnight Accommodation at Kassapa Lions Rock, Habarana or similar (3 Star)

Superior: Dinner and Overnight Accommodation at Chhaya Village, Habarana or similar (4 Star)



## *Day 05*

Approximate riding Distance 220 km

Wake up afresh and get excited! You will see some drastic changes today as you leave the flat land behind you and ascent to the central hills.

Ride past the towns of Minneriya and Giritale and head on to Hasalaka along Sri Lanka's Famous 18 bend road to Kandy

Kandy was the last capital of the ancient kings' era of Sri Lanka. The city lies in the midst of hills in the Kandy plateau, which crosses an area of tropical plantations, mainly tea. Kandy is both an administrative and religious city and is also the capital of the Central Province. Kandy is the home of The Temple of the Tooth Relic (Sri Dalada Maligawa), one of the most sacred places of worship in the Buddhist world. It was declared a world heritage site by UNESCO in 1988.

Explore the historic city of Kandy.

Standard: Dinner and Overnight Accommodation at Senani Hotel, Kandy or similar (3 Star)

Superior: Dinner and Overnight Accommodation at Cinnamon Citadel, Kandy or similar (4 Star)



## Day 06

Approximate riding Distance 160 km

After Breakfast leave Kandy and head on to Nuwara Eliya. Get ready for some interesting trails as you ride through narrow roads that wind through tea plantations. Clear the busy Kandy town and head towards the cool hills. En route stop over at a tea factory and witness how the raw green leaf is processed into the finished product.

Nuwara Eliya it is located at an altitude of 1,868 m (6,128 ft) and is considered to be the most important location for Tea production in Sri Lanka. The city is overlooked by Pidurutalagala, the tallest mountain in Sri Lanka. You will need to have a raincoat handy and the weather could be unpredictable.

The city was founded by Samuel Baker, the discoverer of Lake Albert and the explorer of the Nile in 1846. Nuwara Eliya's climate lent itself to becoming the prime sanctuary of the British civil servants and planters in Ceylon. Nuwara Eliya, called Little England then, was also a hill country retreat where the British colonialists could immerse in their pastimes such as fox hunting, deer hunting, elephant hunting, polo, golf and cricket.

Although the town was founded in the 19th century by the British, the whole district is today visited by native travelers, especially during the month of April, the season of flowers, pony races, go cart races and auto rally.

Many of the buildings retain features from the colonial period such as the Queen's Cottage, General's House, Grand Hotel, Hill Club, Town Post Office and even new hotels are often built and furnished in the colonial style. Anyone who visits the city can wallow in its nostalgia of bygone days by visiting these landmark buildings. Many private homes still maintain their old English-style lawns and gardens.

Upon reaching the hill station of Nuwara Eliya, check - in to the hotel refresh yourself and explore the town of Nuwara Eliya.

Standard & Superior: Dinner and Overnight Accommodation at Galway Forest Hotel, Nuwara Eliya or similar (3 Star)



## *Day 07*

Approximate riding Distance 180 km

After breakfast bid farewell to the hill country and depart for Negombo. The day will consist of steep descending and busy roads on certain sections however the riding will be rewarding as you make your way through some amazing scenery such as the famous St. Cairns and Devon waterfalls. You will pass the town of Kitulgala famous as the location for David Lean's 1957 box office hit '**The Bridge on the River Kwai**' However the bridge once destroyed for the cinematic masterpiece was not re constructed.



Upon reaching Negombo relax and re-live the amazing memories of the trip over a cool beer. (Or celebratory dinner – Prices will be quoted after further discussion)

Standard: Dinner and Overnight Accommodation at Golden Star Hotel, Negombo or similar (2 Star+)

Superior: Dinner and Overnight Accommodation at Goldi Sands Hotel, Negombo or similar (3 Star)

## *Day 08*

Transfer to the airport for Departure.