



WORLD AFFAIRS  
COUNCIL OF  
PHILADELPHIA  
& PARTNERS



# *South India & Sri Lanka*

*A Journey Through Culture, Heritage, and Serenity*

**OCTOBER 13 TO 26, 2026**

Discover the vibrant beauty and cultural richness of South India and Sri Lanka on an unforgettable journey through breathtaking landscapes and historic treasures. Explore the coastal charm of Kochi, where colonial influences meet spice-scented markets, and enjoy the mesmerizing artistry of a traditional Kathakali dance. Unwind aboard a traditional houseboat as you drift through the tranquil backwaters of Kumarakom, passing coconut groves, rice paddies, and scenes of village life. Fly to Sri Lanka to climb the iconic rock fortress of Sigiriya and embark on an exhilarating jeep safari in Minneriya National Park. Conclude your adventure among the sacred temples of Kandy and the misty tea hills of Nuwara Eliya.



*For more information or to reserve your spot, please  
contact World Affairs Council of Philadelphia:*

*[travel@wacphila.org](mailto:travel@wacphila.org) | 800.942.5004*

# YOUR ITINERARY

## DAYS 1/2/3 ~ USA/KOCHI

### CROWNE PLAZA KOCHI. (Meals Aloft; B,L,D)

Arrive early on Day 3 in Kochi, Kerala's vibrant seaside city known as "God's Own Country." After rest, visit the Dutch Palace with its Hindu epic murals, and the 16th-century Jewish Synagogue adorned with Chinese tiles. See the iconic Chinese fishing nets before enjoying a traditional Kathakali dance performance and dinner.

## DAY 4 ~ KOCHI/ALLEPPEY/KUMARAKOM GOKULAM GRAND RESORT & SPA. (B,L,D)

Drive to Alleppey and board a traditional houseboat to cruise Kerala's serene backwaters. Drift past paddy fields, coconut groves, and village life unchanged for centuries. Watch fishermen, farmers, and floating markets along tranquil canals.

## DAY 5 ~ KUMARAKOM

### GOKULAM GRAND RESORT & SPA. (B,L,D)

This morning, glide across Vembanad Lake to Manjira village on a Shikhara boat. Enjoy coconut climbing, taste local produce, and try weaving, coir-making, and fishing. Interact with villagers to experience authentic rural Kerala before returning to your hotel. Spend the rest of the day at leisure, relaxing or exploring at your own pace.

## DAY 6 ~ KUMARAKOM/KOCHI

### CROWNE PLAZA KOCHI. (B,L,D)

Drive back to Kochi through Kerala's scenic countryside. Attend scheduled meetings, then enjoy a leisurely afternoon exploring the city's history and culture before dinner.

## DAY 7 ~ COCHIN/COLOMBO, SRI LANKA/ HABARANA

### CINNAMON LODGE HABARANA. (B,L,D)

Fly to Colombo, then drive north along rolling coconut and rice fields. Enjoy lunch, and relax with a swim or garden stroll.

## DAY 8 ~ HABARANA/SIGIRIYA/MINNERIYA

### CINNAMON LODGE HABARANA. (B,L,D)

Early this morning, drive to Sigiriya, one of Asia's greatest archaeological sites. Climb the iconic Lion's Rock Fortress for breathtaking views and explore its ancient frescoes and ruins, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Later, visit Polonnaruwa's well-preserved medieval temples and Buddha carvings. In the afternoon, enjoy a jeep safari in Minneriya National Park to spot wild elephants.

## DAY 9 ~ HABARANA/DAMBULLA/KANDY

### KANDY MYST BY CINNAMON. (B,L,D)

This morning, drive to Dambulla to visit the UNESCO-listed Cave Temple, famed for its murals and 130 Buddha statues. Continue to Kandy to see the Sacred Tooth Relic Temple, then visit Asgiriya Monastery for a blessing ceremony. Conclude the day with afternoon tea at the historic Queens Hotel.

## DAYS 10/11 ~ KANDY/NUWARA ELIYA/HORTON PLAINS

### JETWING ST. ANDREWS. (B,L,D; B,PACKED L,D)

Travel to Nuwara Eliya, a charming hill town shaped by British colonial heritage and famed as the heart of Ceylon Tea Land. Founded by Sir Samuel Baker in 1846, this "Little England" features cool mountain air, colonial architecture, flower gardens, and rolling green hills. Next day, depart for Horton Plains, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and beautiful plateau in Sri Lanka's central highlands. Explore rolling grasslands, misty forests, and landmarks like World's End and Baker's Fall. Home to sambar deer and purple-faced langurs, this tranquil park offers breathtaking views and peaceful hiking trails. The rest of your day is at leisure.

## DAYS 12/13/14 ~ NUWARA ELIYA/COLOMBO/USA CINNAMON LIFE. (B,L,D; B,L, Meals Aloft)

This morning, drive to Colombo. Relax this afternoon, then gather for sundowners and a farewell dinner at the Galle Face Hotel, one of Asia's oldest and most iconic landmarks. Next morning, attend scheduled meetings and visit the American Embassy before exploring Colombo's highlights. Visit Fort, Pettah Bazaar, and landmarks like the Jumi Ul Alfar Mosque, Dutch Church, Cinnamon Gardens, and Independence Square. Your room will be available until departure. Later, transfer to the airport for your flight home.



Spot Langur at Minneriya Park



Colorful hillside farms in Nuwara Eliya's lush tea country

### Did you know ...

*In both South India and Sri Lanka, hospitality is a cherished tradition—rooted in the belief that “the guest is God,” where visitors are welcomed with warmth, respect, and genuine kindness.*



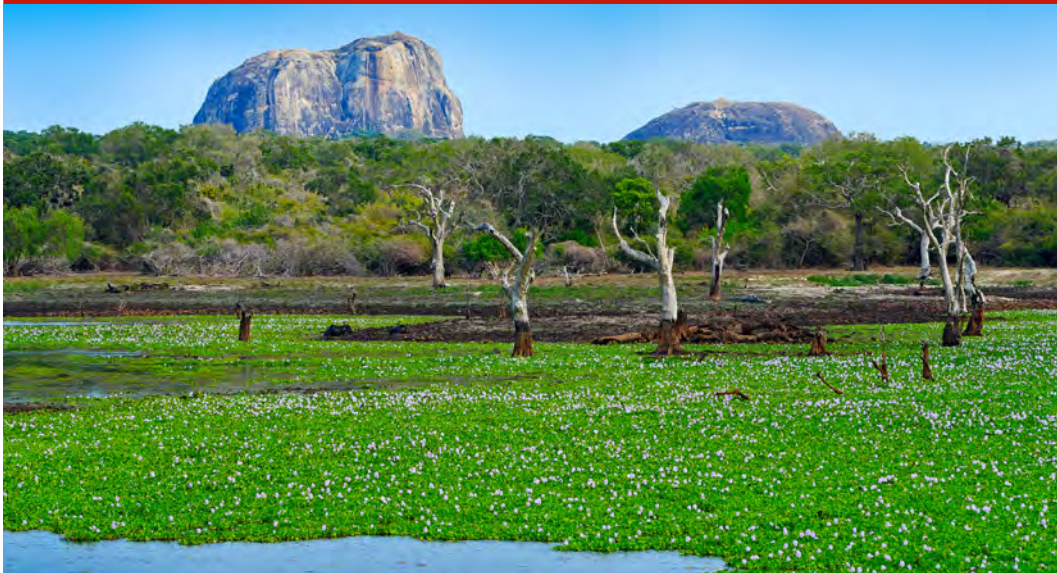
Horton Plains National Park - End of the World Plateau



Cruise through the back waters in a houseboat in Alleppey



## OPTIONAL POST-EXTENSION TO YALA NATIONAL PARK & GALLE



Enhance your journey with a captivating post-extension through southern Sri Lanka. Embark on an unforgettable safari in Yala National Park, famed for the world's highest density of leopards, majestic elephants, and exotic birdlife. Visit a sustainable cinnamon plantation for a warm, home-cooked lunch, and experience the timeless

art of stilt fishing in Weligama. Discover the charm of Galle, a UNESCO World Heritage treasure filled with colonial architecture, boutique shops, and oceanfront cafes. Conclude your adventure in vibrant Colombo, exploring its colorful bazaars, historic landmarks, and cultural gems—a perfect finale to your Sri Lankan escape.

### YOUR JOURNEY COSTS

**OCTOBER 13 TO 26, 2026  
PRICES PER PERSON**

- **\$8,245** land cost, including flight Kochi/Colombo, double occupancy.
- **\$1,995** single supplement, additional.
- Contact Classic Escapes if you require assistance with your airfare.

### YOUR POST-EXTENSION COSTS

**RETURNS OCTOBER 29, 2026  
PRICES PER PERSON**

- **\$3,095** double occupancy.
- **\$995** single supplement, additional.

### YOUR JOURNEY INCLUDES

- Superior accommodations throughout as indicated or similar.
- Flight between Cochin/Colombo.
- Breakfast daily and other meals as specified in itinerary.
- Services of a professional guide – one in India, and another in Sri Lanka.
- A representative from World Affairs Council will accompany the group with a minimum of 10 travelers on the main program only.
- Day houseboat cruise with lunch.
- All transport services using air-conditioned coach depending on group size.
- All sightseeing and related entrance charges as mentioned in the itinerary.
- Kathakali dance show in Cochin.
- Kumarakom Village tour.
- All applicable hotel and lodge taxes and gratuities for baggage handling.
- All entry fees.
- Complimentary reusable water bottle.
- Complimentary emergency evacuation insurance.



Iconic fish curry, a symphony of spice and coconut

*“In religion all other countries are paupers; India is the only millionaire.”*

— Mark Twain

*“Sri Lanka is the finest island of its size in all the world.”*

— Marco Polo



Shiva temple in Kochi

## ACCOMMODATIONS

### Main Program Accommodations

**Crowne Plaza Kochi:** Overlooking serene Vembanad Lake, this elegant retreat blends contemporary style with warm hospitality, offering stylish rooms, diverse dining, a spa, fitness center, and two pools.

**Gokulam Grand Resort & Spa:** Nestled on Vembanad Lake, this serene resort features tropical architecture, elegant rooms and cottages, a meandering pool, lakeside dining, spa, gym, and tranquil walkways—offering a perfect blend of comfort, nature, and relaxation.

**Cinnamon Lodge Habarana:** Surrounded by lush forests, this tranquil retreat offers balcony rooms, a large pool, spa, tennis, and diverse dining—blending comfort, nature, and Sri Lankan charm for a relaxing, rejuvenating escape.

**Kandy Myst by Cinnamon:** Set amid lush hills near central Kandy, this serene retreat offers elegant rooms, dining venues, a pool, spa, gym, and easy access to cultural landmarks like the Temple of the Tooth.

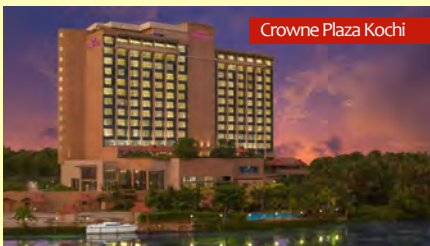
**Jetwing St. Andrews Hotel:** Located in a restored colonial mansion amid lush gardens, this elegant hotel offers cozy wood-accented rooms, fine dining, a classic British pub, and timeless charm in the cool highlands of Nuwara Eliya.

**Cinnamon Life Hotel:** Rising 30 stories above Colombo, this luxurious hotel offers elegant rooms with panoramic ocean and city views, featuring plush bedding, minibars, safes, tea and coffee facilities, and high-speed Wi-Fi.

### Post-Extension Accommodations

**Cinnamon Wild:** Blending with Yala National Park, this rustic-luxury lodge offers jungle or beach-view chalets, modern comforts, local décor, and scenic dining for an authentic wilderness escape.

**Merchant Galle Fort:** Set in an elegant 1710 Dutch colonial building, this boutique hotel offers art-filled rooms, modern comforts, a serene courtyard pool, and a restaurant blending Sri Lankan and English flavors.



Crowne Plaza Kochi



Gokulam Grand Resort & Spa



Cinnamon Lodge Habarana



Kandy Myst by Cinnamon



Jetwing St. Andrews Hotel



Cinnamon Life Hotel

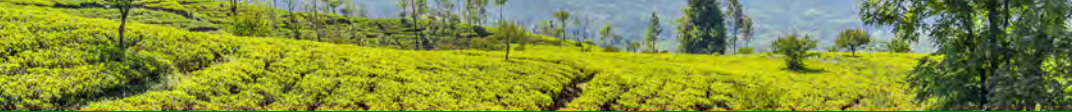


Cinnamon Wild



Merchant Galle Fort





## CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL

**TOUR OPERATOR:** Classic Escapes acts solely as a tour operator and does not own, operate, or control any independent suppliers of travel services. We make bookings on your behalf and facilitate contracts between you and these providers. As such, we are not responsible for their acts, omissions, or service standards, and all arrangements are subject to the providers' terms and conditions. Requests cannot be guaranteed. Legal recourse rests with the specific service provider, not Classic Escapes. Travel conditions may change; it is your responsibility to review current U.S. travel advisories at <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel.html>.

**HOW TO BOOK:** Complete and sign the enclosed reservation form and return it with your deposit of \$1,700 per person for the main and \$700 for the post-extension to: Classic Escapes, 191 W Poplar Street, Floral Park, NY 11001. You may also submit your reservation online at <https://wacphila.org/tour/s-india-sri-lanka>. Once we receive your form and deposit, we will confirm your place on the tour, subject to availability. Your booking is considered final once you receive our confirmation and invoice.

**RATES:** Rates are based on a minimum number of participants, airfare, exchange rates, and other factors, and are subject to change. While price adjustments are rare, we reserve the right to assess a surcharge if the minimum group size is not met or if cost increases are imposed by partners or currency fluctuations.

**INSURANCE:** Comprehensive travel and medical insurance is strongly recommended. This should cover, but is not limited to, trip cancellation or interruption, emergency evacuation, medical care, repatriation, and loss or theft of personal items. Classic Escapes and its agents accept no responsibility for costs or losses related to these risks. Emergency services will be billed directly to the traveler, and access may be limited without proper insurance.

We recommend that you consider a Trip Cancellation policy that also includes medical coverage against unforeseen circumstances. The World Affairs Council offers travel insurance through their partner, USI. You will receive this information from World Affairs upon confirmation of booking.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Classic Escapes and its representatives are not liable for any loss, injury, damage, delay, or expense resulting from any cause, including errors in printed materials, illness, theft, or acts of war, weather, strikes, or government actions. We reserve the right to make changes to the itinerary, accommodations, or prices, or to cancel the trip or a portion thereof, should circumstances require. We may terminate a guest's participation without refund in the event of illness or behavior deemed illegal or disruptive.

**HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:** All participants must be in good physical and mental health. You must inform us of any medical conditions that may affect your ability to participate fully. By registering, you certify that you have no condition that would create a hazard to yourself or others.

**CANCELLATIONS:** Cancellations are only effective on receipt of written notification. The following per person fees are applicable on this tour:

- Up to 6 months prior to departure (April 16, 2026), \$300 per person administrative fee.
- 179 days to 96 days prior to departure (April 17 to July 9, 2026), \$300 per person administrative fee, plus \$250 non-refundable deposits given to suppliers.
- 95 days to 76 days prior to departure (July 10 to July 29, 2026), deposit is forfeited.
- 75 days to 60 days prior to departure (July 30 to August 14, 2026), 50% refund is possible.
- 59 days or less prior to departure (August 15, 2026), no refund is possible.

**RESERVATION OF RIGHTS:** A full set of Terms and Conditions will be sent with your registration. Classic Escapes reserves the right to revise them at any time. Updates provided by your Journey Manager become effective immediately upon receipt.

### Reservation Form: (Please Print)

**TOUR CODE: 26ASG1013WAC**

Enclosed is my deposit for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$1,700 per person for the main and \$700 per person for the extension) to hold \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) on the tour to South India & Sri Lanka departing October 13, 2026. Final payment due date is **July 10, 2026**. **Payments may be made by check or with a credit card. Please make check payable to Classic Escapes, Inc., and send, with completed reservation form, to: Classic Escapes, 191 W Poplar Street, Floral Park, NY 11001.**

You may also submit your reservation online at <https://wacphila.org/tour/s-india-sri-lanka>.

Method of Payment for my deposit: ☐ Check ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ EXP \_\_\_\_\_ CVN \_\_\_\_\_

Deposits/Final payments can be made by credit card, check, or wire transfer. If you choose to pay your deposit or balance via credit card, a non-refundable 5% processing fee will be added to the amount charged.

FULL PASSPORT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (M/D/Y) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

FULL PASSPORT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (M/D/Y) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

BADGE NAME IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE: 1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ MOBILE: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ I am sharing with \_\_\_\_\_ (form sent separately)
- ☐ The two of us above are sharing a room and, where possible, would like a room with: ☐ One Bed ☐ Two Beds
- ☐ I need assistance in securing a roommate. I understand if one cannot be located for me by final payment date, I agree to pay the additional single supplement. I prefer to share with: ☐ Smoker ☐ Nonsmoker
- ☐ I desire single accommodations, if available, and will pay the single supplement additional cost.
- ☐ I/We wish to participate in the optional extension at an additional per person cost.
- ☐ I certify that I have not recently been treated for, nor am I aware of any physical or other condition or liability that would create a hazard to myself or the other members of this tour.

**We strongly recommend that you obtain travel insurance. Reservations are accepted subject to tour conditions and will be confirmed only if accompanied by completed form signed by the tour participant(s).**

**I/We have read the conditions of travel on this brochure and understand and agree to the terms and conditions stated herein:**

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

### FOR MORE INFORMATION OR RESERVATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT:

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[daisyd@classicescapes.com](mailto:daisyd@classicescapes.com)

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[travel@wacphila.org](mailto:travel@wacphila.org)



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