



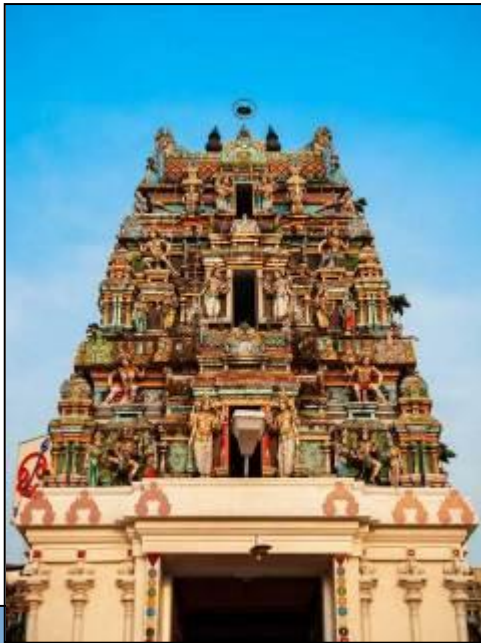
YOU'RE CORDIALLY INVITED TO JOIN THE

**WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL  
OF PHILADELPHIA & PARTNERS**

ON AN EXCLUSIVE TRIP TO  
**SOUTH INDIA & SRI LANKA**

A JOURNEY THROUGH CULTURE, HERITAGE, AND SERENITY

OCTOBER 13 TO 26, 2026





WORLD AFFAIRS  
COUNCIL OF  
PHILADELPHIA  
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## YOUR ITINERARY

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**DAYS 1/2~ TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY~ OCTOBER 13/14**

**USA/EN ROUTE**

Your journey begins this morning as you board your overnight flights to Kochi, South India. (Meals Aloft)

**DAY 3~ THURSDAY~ OCTOBER 15**

**KOCHI**



Early this morning, arrive in Kochi (*approximately 2:15 am, Classic Escapes has arranged for an early check in at Crowne Plaza*), one of the most fascinating cities in the world. Kochi (*colonial name Cochin*) is a vibrant city situated on the south-west coast of the Indian peninsula in the breathtakingly scenic and prosperous state of Kerala, hailed as '*God's Own Country*'. This lovely seaside city is flanked by the Western Ghats on the east and the Arabian Sea on the west. Its proximity to the equator, the sea and the mountains provide a rich experience of a moderate equatorial climate. Upon arrival you will be met and escort to your hotel.

After some rest and lunch (*on your own,*) visit the Dutch Palace which was originally built by the Portuguese. Later, in 17<sup>th</sup> century, the Dutch modified it and presented it to the Raja of Kochi. The palace has a fine collection of mural paintings depicting the scenes from the Hindu epics Mahabharatha and Ramayana.

Continue with your visit to the Jewish Synagogue located near the Dutch Palace, which was built in 1568, and is magnificently decorated by Chinese tiles and Belgian chandeliers. Giant scrolls of the Old Testament can be found here.







Discover the iconic Chinese fishing nets of Cochin, a centuries-old tradition and a unique symbol of Kerala's coastal culture. Watch as local fishermen skillfully operate these massive, cantilevered nets, a technique introduced by Chinese traders in the 14th century. Set against the backdrop of Cochin's serene waters, this tour offers a fascinating glimpse into the region's maritime heritage and daily life.



In the evening, a Kathakali performance – an art form unique to this part of India, and dinner at a local restaurant



*Nestled along the tranquil Vembanad Lake, Crowne Plaza Kochi offers a sophisticated haven for both business and leisure travelers. Blending contemporary design with warm hospitality, the hotel provides an ideal mix of comfort and convenience. The property features 269 elegantly appointed rooms and suites, many showcasing breathtaking views of the backwaters or lush surroundings. Rooms are designed with floor-to-ceiling windows and include modern amenities such as flat-screen TVs, minibars, tea and coffee-making facilities, and optional internet access. Guests can indulge in 24-hour in-room dining, rejuvenate at the upscale spa featuring a sauna, or stay active in the 24-hour fitness center. The hotel also boasts two outdoor pools, a serene garden, and versatile event spaces. Dining options are diverse, with standout offerings at Mosaic, a multi-cuisine restaurant; SkyGrill, for fine dining; Zoka, specializing in Indian flavors; and Aroma, serving beverages and baked treats. Additional amenities include a deli, a stylish bar and free Wi-Fi.*

Overnight at CROWNE PLAZA KOCHI, in standard rooms. (B,L,D)  
<https://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/kochi/cokch/hoteldetail>

#### DAY 4~ FRIDAY~ OCTOBER 16

##### COCHIN/ALLEPPEY/KUMARAKOM

Your drive takes you to Alleppey to board your houseboat for a cruise through the back waters. Kumarakom is technically an island on Vembanad Lake. The village of Kumarakom is a cluster of little islands on the Vembanad Lake, and this small water world is part of the Kuttanad region. The house boats are the perfect way to experience the calm and unique ecology of the Kerala backwaters. The rice boats of Kerala are unique to this area of India and were the historic method for transporting rice and other trade through the aqueous center of Kerala to the ports on the coast at Kollam, Alleppey and Cochin. From your daybed in the bows of the boat you can watch the traditional life of backwater Kerala continue on much as it has done for centuries: women washing from the ghats before their houses, farmers shepherding thousands of ducks, paddy fields being flooded and washed or the night fishermen fishing by their lights. The houseboat is a converted rice-barge. Reclining on cushions and drifting through quiet canals, you'll pass through paddy fields grazed by ducks and goats, floating markets, local toddy shops, temples and churches. It will take you along the lake, backwaters, canals, meadows, coconut groves, villages and paddy fields.





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In the evening, disembark your houseboat and check in to your hotel in Kumarakom.

*Set along the tranquil Vembanad Lake, Gokulam Grand seamlessly blends with its lush surroundings through tropical-inspired architecture. The resort features 52 well-appointed rooms and 17 luxury cottages, each designed for comfort with premium bedding, separate sitting areas, LED TVs, electric kettles, and free Wi-Fi. Stone-paved pathways connect the accommodations to the restaurant, bar, and spa, while small canals and bridges enhance the serene atmosphere. A centerpiece of the property is the meandering pool surrounded by poolside rooms, leading to a deck and bar with stunning lake views. Guests can enjoy a lakeside amphitheater, a 24-hour gym, and a walkway skirting the lake, perfect for a peaceful retreat immersed in natural beauty.*

Overnight at the GOKULAM GRAND RESORT & SPA, in lakeview rooms. (B,L,D)

<https://www.gokulamgrandkumarakom.com/>



## DAY 5~SATURDAY~ OCTOBER 17

### KUMARAKOM

Begin your morning with an immersive village tour in Kumarakom, a picturesque cluster of islands on Vembanad Lake, celebrated for its serene backwaters, lush greenery, and delectable local cuisine. Your journey starts aboard a traditional Shikhara boat, gliding across the tranquil lake towards Manjira village.

Experience the changing times through a unique demonstration of climbing a coconut tree – both the labor-intensive traditional method using a thalappu and the modern approach with advanced tools. Reward yourself with a refreshing tender coconut as the class concludes.

Continue your exploration across verdant paddy fields to a coconut grove, where you can sample Kerala's iconic toddy, freshly tapped from the tree, and learn about the region's fascinating plants and spices. Witness the art of weaving coconut leaves and try your hand at this traditional craft.

A skilled local fisherman will share age-old techniques and demonstrate the effortless casting of a fishing net. Next, observe the intricate process of coir-making, from fiber extraction to spinning, and give it a try yourself. Discover the craft of screw pine product creation and take home a unique handmade souvenir.

Return to your hotel by noon, with the rest of the day free to relax or explore at your own pace.

Overnight at the GOKULAM GRAND RESORT & SPA.  
(B,L,D)







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#### **DAY 6~ SUNDAY~ OCTOBER 18**

##### **KUMARAKOM/COCHIN**

This morning, you will drive back to Cochin, a scenic two-hour journey through Kerala's picturesque landscapes. Upon arrival, time is set aside for scheduled meetings, allowing you to attend to business in this bustling city known for its rich history and vibrant culture.

After your meetings, you will proceed to check in at your hotel, where you can unwind and enjoy the comfort of your accommodations. The remainder of the day is yours to relax or explore Cochin at your leisure, soaking in its unique blend of tradition and modernity. You will have dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight at CROWNE PLAZA KOCHI. (B,L,D)

#### **DAY 7~ MONDAY~ OCTOBER 19**

##### **COCHIN/COLOMBO, SRI LANKA/HABARANA**

Board your morning flight to Colombo, Sri Lanka. Upon arrival at the Bandaranaike International Airport, Katunayake, embark on a scenic 4-hour drive north along the coast, passing through stretches of coconut groves, lush paddy fields, and vibrant woodlands. Upon arrival in the cultural heart of the region, check in to your hotel and enjoy a delicious lunch. Afterward, unwind with a swim or take a leisurely stroll through the hotel's serene natural gardens.

*Nestled within lush green forests, Cinnamon Lodge Habarana provides air-conditioned rooms, each with a private balcony to enjoy the natural surroundings. The hotel features a spacious outdoor pool, a butterfly garden, and three dining options for a relaxing stay. The rooms are designed for comfort, featuring a cozy seating area with a sofa, cable TV, minibar, personal safe, and a tea/coffee maker. For leisure, guests can indulge in a variety of activities, from relaxing at the Azmaara Spa to playing tennis or billiards. Dining options include Restaurant Ehala, which serves buffet-style international and themed dishes, and The Lotus, offering both Western favorites and local contemporary cuisine. For drinks, guests can visit Cafe Veranda or Bar Tuskers.*

Overnight at the CINNAMON LODGE HABARANA, in superior rooms. (B,L,D)

<https://www.cinnamonhotels.com/cinnamon-lodge-habarana>



#### **DAY 8~TUESDAY~ OCTOBER 20**

##### **HABARANA/SIGIRIYA/MINNERIYA**

Today's drive takes you to Sigiriya, one of Asia's major archaeological sites. Sigiriya presents a unique concentration of fifth-century urban planning, architecture, gardening, engineering, hydraulic technology and art. (Approximate drive 30 minutes).





Sigiriya (*Lion's rock*) is an ancient rock fortress and palace ruin in the central Matale District of Sri Lanka surrounded by the remains of an extensive network of gardens, reservoirs, and other structures. The most famous features of Sigiriya are its ancient paintings (*frescos*) which are reminiscent of the Ajanta Caves of India. The Sigiriya paintings have been the focus of considerable interest and attention in both ancient and modern times. It is one of the seven World Heritage Sites of Sri Lanka. Sigiriya may have been inhabited through prehistoric times. It was used as a rock-shelter mountain monastery from about the 5th century BC, with caves prepared and donated by devotees to the Buddhist Sangha. According to the chronicles as Mahavamsa the entire complex was built by King Kashyapa (AD 477 – 495), and after the king's death, it was used as a Buddhist monastery until the 14th century.



Embark on an energizing morning hike to the Sigiriya Rock Fortress (*approximately 2 hours*), where you can witness the breathtaking sunrise from the summit, weather permitting.

Return to the hotel for breakfast.





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Later in the day, visit the ruins of ancient Polonnaruwa city, which date back to the 10th century, when the Chola kings of southern India invaded Sri Lanka and conquered Anuradhapura. Polonnaruwa was the capital of Sri Lanka in medieval times. Used by the Sri Lankan kings as a 'country residence' from the 7th century, Polonnaruwa became Sri Lanka's capital in the 11th century AD. The ruins of this ancient city stand on the east shore of a large artificial lake, the Topa Wewa Lake, or Parakrama Samudra created by King Parakramabahu I (1153-86), whose reign was Polonnaruwa's golden age. Polonnaruwa is a "World Heritage Site" with many interesting well-preserved temple shrines and other buildings mostly of 12th century vintage. Of special significance is the "Gal Vihare" (Stone Temple) with three of the world's most exquisite Buddha images carved out of solid granite.



In the afternoon, set off on an exciting Jeep safari in Minneriya, Kaudulla, or Hurulu National Park (*1-hour drive*) in search of wild Asian elephants. The park selection will be based on elephant movement, coordinated by your guide, with the safari lasting around 3 hours. Sri Lanka's wild elephant herds are most active during the dry months, when they gather around ancient reservoirs such as Minneriya, Kaudulla, and Giritale, which were originally built by the Anuradhapura kingdom. These areas now form the heart of three interlinked national parks. As the water levels drop, large groups of elephants, sometimes numbering up to 150-200, gather to drink and forage. This provides a fantastic opportunity to observe the social dynamics of the elephants, from family groups led by a matriarch to playful calves and wandering bulls.

The best time to see large gatherings is from mid-March to October. During the wet season (October to January), the herds disperse, migrating to the Hurulu Forest Reserve, where they blend into the dense jungle and tall grasses. The area is also home to a variety of bird species, such as the Indian Roller, Sri Lanka Jungle Fowl, and raptors like the Crested Serpent Eagle.

After the safari, return to the hotel for dinner and enjoy an overnight stay.  
Overnight at the CINNAMON LODGE HABARANA. (B,L,D)





## DAY 9~ WEDNESDAY~ OCTOBER 21

### HABARANA/DAMBULLA/KANDY

Today, after breakfast, proceed to Dambulla (30 minutes' drive) and visit the Dambulla Cave Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Built by King Walagambahu, it is the most impressive of Sri Lanka's cave temples and was built at the base of a 492-foot rock face over a period stretching from the First century B.C. to 1250 A.D. The Dambulla Cave Temple is comprised of five distinct caves, each of which functions as a shrine room. All of the five cave walls and ceilings are covered with Buddhist murals and there are more than 130 statues including representations of the Buddha, of gods, and of quondam kings.



Continue to Kandy, stopping for lunch at a local restaurant, and visit the Sri Dalada Maligawa, or Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic, a revered Buddhist temple located in Kandy. As one of the holiest sites in Buddhism, it draws countless pilgrims and visitors each year. The temple not only holds immense religious significance but also stands as a testament to Sri Lanka's rich cultural heritage, making it an essential destination for those interested in the island's history and Buddhist traditions.



Next, head to the historic Asgiriya Monastery, where you can experience a private blessing ceremony and engage in a discussion about mindful living with a Buddhist monk (1-hour activity). The monastery, one of the two main chapters entrusted with the care of the Sacred Tooth Relic, dates back to the 14th century. It plays a crucial role in preserving the spiritual and cultural legacy of the region, serving as a residence and training center for Buddhist monks. It is a serene and picturesque spot, ideal for reflection and capturing the essence of Sri Lanka's spiritual heritage.

To conclude your day, enjoy a traditional afternoon tea at the historic Queens Hotel, a charming and elegant spot offering a delightful experience in the heart of Kandy.

*Kandy Myst by Cinnamon enjoys a prime location just beyond the vibrant center of Kandy, offering guests convenient access to cultural treasures like the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic and Kandy Lake. Nestled amidst lush greenery with sweeping mountain vistas, the hotel provides a serene escape while remaining within easy reach of the city's attractions. The accommodations feature tastefully designed rooms and suites that seamlessly blend contemporary comforts with authentic Sri Lankan touches. Each room is thoughtfully appointed with plush bedding, en-suite bathrooms, and private balconies that open up to breathtaking views of the surrounding hills and forests, creating a tranquil retreat. Guests can indulge in a variety of dining experiences, unwind by the outdoor pool, stay active at the well-equipped fitness center, or relax at the rejuvenating spa. Free Wi-Fi.*



Overnight at the KANDY MIST BY CINNAMON, in standard rooms. (B,L,D)

<https://www.cinnamonhotels.com/kandy-myst-by-cinnamon>





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## DAY 10~THURSDAY~ OCTOBER 22

### KANDY/NUWARA ELIYA

This morning, embark on a scenic journey to Nuwara Eliya, a region deeply influenced by English colonial history and renowned as one of Sri Lanka's key tea-producing areas. As you travel through the lush, fertile countryside, you will be surrounded by serene landscapes and sprawling tea plantations, making this one of the most picturesque routes in the hill country. The journey promises to be a visual treat, offering an opportunity to experience the tranquility and beauty of the area's vibrant green hills.



Nuwara Eliya was discovered and founded by the famed British Explorer Sir Samuel Baker in 1846. Situated at an altitude of 6,128 feet, its climate is considered most important for tea production and hence it is the heart of Ceylon Tea Land. The town is overlooked by the tallest mountains in Sri Lanka, and the similarity of the salubrious climate to a summer in the English countryside made it the prime sanctuary of British civil servants who named it "Little England". Legend has it Sir Samuel Baker brought farm animals and hounds and set up English styled farms in the area. The city has many buildings retaining features of the colonial period with English style lawns and flower gardens as well as a picturesque lake and golf course.

Arrive in Nuwara Eliya and proceed to your home for the next two nights, the Jetwing St. Andrews Hotel.

*Jetwing St. Andrews, housed in a former colonial-style country house, is a charming and upmarket hotel set amidst beautifully landscaped gardens. The rooms at Jetwing St. Andrews are simply decorated with wood floors and ceilings, creating a warm, inviting atmosphere. They are equipped with free Wi-Fi, flat-screen TVs, and comfortable sitting areas. Upgraded rooms feature elegant 4-poster beds and/or lofted sleeping areas with additional beds. The hotel features a refined restaurant offering an array of delicious dishes, as well as a traditional British pub where guests can enjoy a relaxed meal or drink. Guests can also unwind in the lush gardens, perfect for a peaceful stroll, or enjoy a game in the snooker room, complete with an antique table. With its combination of*







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*colonial charm, modern amenities, and serene surroundings, Jetwing St. Andrews provides an exceptional experience for those visiting Nuwara Eliya.*

Overnight at the JETWING ST. ANDREWS HOTEL, in superior rooms. (B L,D)

<https://www.jetwinghotels.com/jetwingstandrews/#gref>

#### **DAY 11~FRIDAY~ OCTOBER 23**

##### **NUWARA ELIYA/HORTON PLAINS**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before departing for Horton Plains, located about an hour away. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Horton Plains is a stunning plateau in Sri Lanka's central highlands, renowned for its rolling grasslands, mist-covered forests, and dramatic landscapes. The park is home to landmarks such as World's End, a sheer cliff that offers breathtaking panoramic views, and Baker's Falls, a picturesque waterfall. The park boasts a diverse ecosystem, with unique species like the Sri Lankan sambar deer and purple-faced langur. It is a paradise for nature lovers and hikers, offering peaceful trails and a chance to immerse yourself in Sri Lanka's natural beauty.



Return to the hotel for a relaxing afternoon at leisure.

Overnight at the JETWING ST. ANDREWS HOTEL. (B, packed L,D)

#### **DAY 12~ SATURDAY~ OCTOBER 24**

##### **NUWARA ELIYA/ COLOMBO**

This morning, you will be picked up and chauffeured to Colombo, a 5-hour journey. Your afternoon is at leisure before enjoying sundowners and farewell dinner at the historic Galle Face Hotel, established in 1864 and regarded as one of the oldest hotels east of the Suez. With its prime seafront location near the iconic Galle Face Green, the hotel offers a delightful dining experience and serves as a perfect base for exploring Colombo.

*Cinnamon Life hotel boasts 687 elegantly designed rooms and suites, offering guests an experience of unparalleled comfort. Soaring 30 stories high, the hotel provides breathtaking views of the Indian Ocean, Beira Lake, and the vibrant cityscape of Colombo. Each room is thoughtfully designed to maximize natural light, featuring contemporary décor with bold accents. Guests can enjoy premium amenities, including plush bedding, a minibar, an in-room safe, tea and coffee-making facilities, and high-speed Wi-Fi for a seamless stay. With 15 distinctive restaurants and bars, the resort presents an extraordinary culinary adventure, offering diverse flavors in unique settings. Additional highlights include two outdoor pools and a fully equipped fitness center, ensuring a perfect blend of relaxation and recreation.*

Overnight at the CINNAMON LIFE in premier Life-Cityscapes View

rooms. (B,L,D) <https://www.cinnamonhotels.com/cinnamon-life-city-of-dreams-sri-lanka>







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**DAY 13~ SUNDAY~ OCTOBER 25**

**COLOMBO/ EN ROUTE**

Time is set aside this morning for scheduled meetings and visit to the American Embassy. Afterwards, go on a sightseeing tour of Colombo that takes you to the Fort and the noisy oriental bazaar at Pettah with a mix of humanity, ancient vehicles, bargains, mosques and temples. Colombo is the commercial capital of Sri Lanka with a population of 1.1 million. The Fort, in the very center of the city, is where most of the colonial remnants mainly from the British era are to be found. Drive past the Jumi Ul Alfar Jumma Mosque and continue with the tour through the Wolfendhal Dutch Church, Hulftsdorp Law Courts, through the residential area of Cinnamon Gardens, and on to the Independence Square, Bandaranayake Memorial International Conference Hall.



Rooms will be available until departure at the CINNAMON LIFE. Later today you will be escorted to the airport for your international flight back home. (B,L)

**DAY 14~MONDAY~ OCTOBER 26**

**USA**

Arrive back home eager to share memories and photos with your family and friends. (Meals Aloft)





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

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**DAYS 12/13~ SATURDAY/SUNDAY~ OCTOBER 24/25**

### **NUWARA ELIYA/YALA NATIONAL PARK**

Today's drive takes you to Yala National Park (*approximately 5 hours*) covering an area of *600-sq miles*, which is mostly open parkland, making the wildlife easier to see. The landscape is varied, with rock outcrops, scrub jungle, lagoons, lakes, rivers and even beaches. Yala has the highest density of wild leopards in the world, herds of Sri Lankan elephant, and for bird enthusiasts, here are the few remaining breeding pairs of the Blacknecked Stork in Sri Lanka. This is one of the few places in Sri Lanka where it is relatively easy to see a leopard, either strolling beside the track or, with luck, draped elegantly in a tree. There are estimated to be around 35 leopards and 400 wild elephants, as well as wild buffalo, musk deer, mongoose, pangolin, black bear, macaque, jackal and numerous species of birds. Yala is the second largest national park in Southern Sri Lanka that facilitates one of the richest ecosystems in the Island.



Next day, awake early and head off by 4x4 Jeep on safari at Yala National Park. Perhaps you will spy a leopard peering from behind a bush, or from a tree branch. After an afternoon respite, trek again into the woodlands for an opportunity to observe the comings and goings of the Sri Lankan elephant, the largest of the Asian elephant subspecies.

*Cinnamon Wild, following a brand enhancement, is no longer just a resort – it is an integral extension of Yala National Park, designed to blend seamlessly with the park's natural environment. Its concept of rustic luxury evokes the charm of a game lodge. The interiors of Cinnamon Wild Yala go beyond expectations, featuring a camp-inspired aesthetic with elements such as large trunk boxes, vintage furniture, director's chairs, and local artwork. Located in Kirinda, a village renowned for its wildlife in the south of Sri Lanka, the property is a 6-hour drive from Bandaranaike International Airport. The chalets offer breathtaking views of either the beach or the jungle and are adorned with local crafts. Each chalet is equipped with air-conditioning, cable TV, a mini-bar, and private bathroom facilities. Boasting a prime location, the resort's restaurant provides stunning landscapes and serves a variety of Asian and Western dishes, with the option for private in-room dining.*

Overnights at the CINNAMON WILD, in jungle chalets. (B,L,D Daily) <https://www.cinnamonhotels.com/cinnamon-wild-yala>







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## DAY 14~MONDAY~ OCTOBER 26

### YALA NATIONAL PARK/ GALLE

Transfer to Galle, Sri Lanka's fourth-largest city, located approximately 1.5 hours away, renowned for its stunning examples of Portuguese colonial architecture.

On the way, visit an eco-friendly, self-sustaining cinnamon plantation, where you will enjoy a delicious, home-cooked lunch hosted by the plantation owners.

Make a stop in Weligama to capture photos and learn about the ancient Sri Lankan tradition of stilt fishing. This unique fishing method, still practiced along the southern coast, is not only a symbol of Sri Lanka's coastal heritage but also a testament to resourcefulness and sustainable fishing. Despite challenges from modern fishing techniques and tourism, stilt fishing remains a cherished part of Sri Lanka's cultural landscape, reflecting the island's deep connection to its traditions.



Continue the journey to Galle, a one-hour drive, and check into the Galle Hotel.

*Important: Stilt fishing is seasonal and is subject to weather conditions and can't be pre-booked nor guaranteed. If you are lucky, you may witness this when passing by and should you wish to take photographs usually they will request payment.*

The Merchant Galle Fort is a charming boutique hotel with just 14 rooms and a townhouse, offering personalized service and a blend of historic elegance and modern luxury. Housed in a Dutch colonial building dating back to 1710, the hotel is located on the vibrant Pedlar Street in the heart of Galle Fort, just a 5-minute walk from Galle Lighthouse. Each room features hand-picked antiques, original artwork, and modern amenities such as a flat-screen TV, minibar, coffee/tea-making facilities, and soundproofed windows. Guests can enjoy views of the garden, and the hotel also offers a serene courtyard with a turquoise pool, shaded by palms and frangipani trees. The Merchant Galle Fort also has a restaurant serving a full English breakfast and Sri Lankan dishes. Wi-Fi is available throughout the property, making it a peaceful retreat in the center of Galle's historic charm.

Overnight at the MERCHANT GALLE FORT, in deluxe rooms.  
(B,LD) <http://themerchantgallefort.com/>



## DAY 15~TUESDAY~ OCTOBER 27

### GALLE

Spend the day exploring the vibrant Galle, a historic coastal city in the southern part of Sri Lanka. Known for its well-preserved colonial architecture and rich cultural heritage, Galle is home to the iconic Galle Fort, a UNESCO World Heritage Site originally built by the Portuguese in the 16th century and later fortified by the Dutch. The fort's cobblestone streets, charming old buildings, and panoramic views of the Indian Ocean reflect a unique blend of European and South Asian influences.





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Galle also boasts an artsy atmosphere, with numerous galleries, boutiques, and cafes lining its streets. Beyond the fort, visitors can enjoy beautiful beaches, lush greenery, and the city's fascinating history. Make sure to explore the small boutiques scattered throughout the Dutch Fort and sample the variety of eateries offering both local and international cuisine, adding to the vibrant experience of this charming destination.

Overnight at the MERCHANT GALLE FORT. (B,L,D)

#### **DAY 16~WEDNESDAY~ OCTOBER 28**

##### **GALLE/COLOMBO**

Set off on a scenic drive to Colombo via the Southern Expressway, a journey of approximately two hours. Upon arrival, go on a sightseeing tour of Colombo that takes you to the Fort and the noisy oriental bazaar at Pettah with a mix of humanity, ancient vehicles, bargains, mosques and temples. Colombo is the commercial capital of Sri Lanka with a population of 1.1 million. The Fort, in the very center of the city, is where most of the colonial remnants mainly from the British era are to be found. Drive past the Jumi Ul Alfar Jumma Mosque and continue with the tour through the Wolfendhal Dutch Church, Hulftsdorp Law Courts, through the residential area of Cinnamon Gardens, and on to the Independence Square, Bandaranayake Memorial International Conference Hall.

Rooms will be available until departure at the CINNAMON LIFE. Later today you will be escorted to the airport for your international flight back home. (B,L)

#### **DAY 17~THURSDAY~ OCTOBER 29**

##### **USA**

This morning finds you back home eager to share memories and photos with your family and friends. (Meals Aloft







## INCLUSIONS

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- 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.

## EXCLUSIONS

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- Air transportation between USA and Cochin, South India returning from Colombo, Sri Lanka. If you require assistance with air arrangements, contact Classic Escapes.
- Passport and visa fees and service charges for obtaining visas. Currently, visas are required for entry into India and Sri Lanka.
- Excess baggage charges levied by airlines.
- Gratuities to driver/guides, specialist-guide and other conveyance attendants. *Gratuities should only be given as a reward for exceptional service and is at your discretion. We estimate \$15 per person/per day for the specialist guide. \$10 per person/per day for the driver. \$5 per person/per day for the lodge/resort staff. \$3 per person for each arrival and departure transfer from the airport / hotel. These are daily per service estimates and an exact tipping chart will be detailed on your final itinerary.*
- Meals and beverages, other than specified.
- Laundry and other items of a personal nature.
- Personal and baggage insurance.
- Cost for anything not specifically mentioned in the listing above.

**Please Note That The Itinerary Sequence Is Correct At The Time Of Writing, But Is Subject To Change.**



## THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT INDIA & SRI LANKA

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### Participants

- Must be able to climb in and out of vehicles unassisted. They should also be able to tolerate riding on uneven, bumpy dirt roads for long periods of time (6-9 hours maximum).
- Participants should be able to stand and/or walk moderate distances at an easy pace for up to a few hours at a time when visiting villages, towns, temples or other sites. Some, if not most, of this walking may be on uneven ground or uphill.
- Driving in South India is chaotic and unlike the orderly driving experienced in the United States. Your drivers are experts in navigating the roads with all the conditions that are prevalent, and travelers should feel safe in the knowledge that your driver's number one priority is to get you to your destination safely and as efficiently as possible.

### General

- True adventure in travel can sometimes be accompanied by unexpected changes in conditions, itineraries and occasionally your accommodations.
- Participants should travel with a spirit of adventure and flexibility. Remember to pack your patience and sense of humor! Be willing to look past self-imposed ideals of Western amenities and do not compare these new experiences with your life back home. Travel often includes visiting destinations with modest infrastructures and a bending definition of comfort. That being said some locations are nestled in absolute luxury where pampering is the norm.
- Participants should generally be in good health and prepared to travel in locations without medical facilities.

### Air Schedules

The cost of your program does not include international airfare. If you require assistance, please contact Classic Escapes at 718-280-5002 and we will happily provide air quotes to you. You may make your own international air arrangements, but please ensure you arrive/depart on the correct dates. Contact your Journey Manager at Classic Escapes to verify the dates to ensure there are no errors. **The start city for this program is Cochin, South India and the end city is Colombo, Sri Lanka.**

*Upon registration, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with reissuing the ticket.*





# YOUR JOURNEY AT A GLANCE

**INCLUDING:** SOUTH INDIA: COCHIN, ALLEPPEY & KUMARAKOM; SRI LANKA: COLOMBO, HABARANA, KANDY & NUWARA ELIYA; POST-EXTENSION TO YALA NATIONAL PARK & GALLE

**ESPECIALLY PREPARED FOR:** WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL

**ESCORTED BY:** A HOST FROM WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL

**DATES:** OCTOBER 13 TO 26, 2026

**COSTS:** PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY	MAIN TRIP BASED ON 10 TRAVELERS	YALA/GALLE POST EXTENSION BASED ON 6 TRAVELERS
LAND COST INCLUDING FLIGHT COCHIN/ COLOMBO	\$8,245 PER PERSON	\$3,095 PER PERSON
SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT*	\$1,995 PER PERSON, ADDITIONAL	\$995 PER PERSON, ADDITIONAL

*\*SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: RATE IS VALID FOR FIRST TWO SINGLE ROOMS BOOKED. IF MORE THAN TWO SINGLE ROOMS, ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENT WILL APPLY. SINGLES ARE ASSIGNED ON A FIRST COME/FIRST SERVE BASIS.*

The cost of your program does not include international airfare. If you require assistance, please contact Classic Escapes at 718-280-5002 and we will happily provide air quotes to you. You may make your own international air arrangements, but please ensure you arrive/depart on the correct dates. Contact your Journey Manager at Classic Escapes to verify the dates to ensure there are no errors. **The start city for this program is Cochin, South India and the end city is Colombo, Sri Lanka.**





## CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL:

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The purchase of your travel booking constitutes a contractual agreement between the traveler(s), customer(s), and/or purchaser(s) (collectively as "**You**" and "**Traveler**"), and Classic Escapes ("**Classic Escapes**", "**We**", "**Us**") pursuant to the following terms and conditions ("**Terms**", "**Agreement**"):

### **REGISTRATION & PAYMENTS**

**HOW TO BOOK:** Fill out and sign the enclosed reservation form and send it, along with the relevant deposit as shown below, to: CLASSIC ESCAPES, 191 W Poplar Street, Floral Park, NY 11001. Upon receipt of your signed reservation form and deposit, we will, subject to availability, reserve your spot on the tour. You may consider your booking confirmed when you receive a confirmation notice and invoice from us.

**DEPOSIT AND FINAL PAYMENT:** You will be required to pay the following per-person deposits when booking. Those amounts are:

- \$1,700 for main trip
- \$700 for the Yalla/Galle extension

All deposits are subject to the Cancellation policy herein. Final payment is required no less than 95 days prior to departure (July 10, 2026) unless otherwise stated. Some fares or services must be paid in full at the time of booking. Payments may be made by check or with a credit card (American Express, Visa, MasterCard, or Discover.) Conditioned on receipt of final payment in full, all final documents and air tickets will be sent to you approximately two weeks prior to departure.

**CREDIT CARD PROCESSING FEE:** Payments made via credit card will incur a non-refundable processing fee of 5%. This fee applies to both deposits and final payments and will be added to the total trip cost. By choosing to pay via credit card, you agree to this additional charge. Alternative payment methods, such as bank transfers or checks, are available to avoid this fee.

**CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS:** If for any reason, any travel service provider is unable to provide the services for which you have contracted, your remedy lies against the provider, and not against Classic Escapes, and in the event that payment has been made to Classic Escapes by credit card, you agree that you will not seek to chargeback your payment to Classic Escapes. If the credit card is passed through to the travel service provider and you seek to chargeback your payment from the provider, you agree to be held liable and indemnify Classic Escapes against this chargeback from the provider, including without limitation any air debit memos charged to Classic Escapes. If the credit card is declined, you guarantee that you will settle any amounts owing to Classic Escapes via money order or cash immediately. Except in cases of fraud, you agree not to file any dispute with your bank or credit card company to avoid or violate any booking terms and conditions of Classic Escapes or its suppliers, including cancellations or changes of itinerary or arrangements for reasons beyond the control of Classic Escapes or its suppliers. If you attempt to chargeback, reverse or recollect a previously authorized trip payment, Classic Escapes reserves the right to collect all additional costs, fees and expenses associated with such chargeback, reversal or recollection, including, without limitation, attorney fees.

**IMPORTANT CONDITIONS:** Prices are subject to increase prior to the time you make full payment. Prices are not subject to increase after you make full payment, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. By signing the reservation form, you expressly acknowledge your acceptance of these conditions (i.e., increases before full payment and increases attributable to government-imposed taxes or fees after full payment will be your responsibility) applicable to your purchase.

**RATES:** Rates are based on the minimum number of guests outlined in this document, plus airfare costs, currency exchange rates and other factors and are subject to change. Though it is rare for Classic Escapes to make a price adjustment after promotion of an itinerary, we do reserve the right to assess a surcharge if the minimum is not met, or if increases are forced upon us by airlines or other partners or because of changes in currency exchange rates.

**ADDITIONAL FEES:** Additional taxes and surcharges that cannot be pre-collected may be charged locally. Cost of passport and visa fees and service charges for obtaining visa fees; excess baggage charges levied by airlines; laundry and other items of personal nature; optional travel insurance policy(s); or any other costs incurred that cannot be pre-collected are NOT included and are the sole responsibility of the Traveler.

**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:** The quoted rate is valid for the first two single rooms booked and on a first-come, first-served basis. If more than two single rooms are needed, an additional supplement may apply. Single accommodations are not guaranteed but will be provided at additional cost if available (see your "Journey at a Glance section" for cost.) The single-room supplement pays for privacy, not better accommodations. For passengers who are traveling alone and wish to share a room with another tour member, we will do our best to provide a roommate. However, if this is not possible, you will be required to pay the single room supplement prior to your departure.



from the USA. **GRATUITIES, ENTRANCE FEES & TAXES:** Gratuities for baggage handling, service charges and taxes imposed by hotels, and entrance fees to all points of interest as outlined in the itinerary are included in the final cost. U.S. and foreign airport taxes are included in air costs. Tips to drivers and specialist guide(s) **are not** included.

### **CANCELLATIONS, DEVIATIONS & CHANGES**

**TRAVEL INSURANCE:** We recommend travel insurance. Travel insurance can provide financial reimbursement should the unexpected occur.

**CANCELLATION:** Please be aware that most travel bookings are non-refundable and cancelled bookings will incur charges. These charges can be up to 100% of the cost of the booking, regardless of whether travel has commenced. Where we incur any liability for a cancellation fee or charge for any booking that you cancel, you agree to indemnify us for the amount of that fee or charge. Cancellations are only effective upon receipt of written notification. The following per-person fees are applicable; however, depending on the specific itinerary or other factors, we may require a non-refundable deposit:

- 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.

These cancellation fees are also in addition to any fees imposed by airlines.

**REFUNDS:** While Classic Escapes uses its best endeavors to ensure that all anticipated accommodation is available as planned, there is no claim of any nature whatsoever against Classic Escapes for a refund, in whole or in part, if any accommodation or excursion is unavailable and a reasonable alternative is not found, or if the Traveler is unable to use any service provided in the itinerary.

**CHANGES:** Once your tour is reserved, changes to the itinerary are possible subject to the availability of air or land space at the time of your request. Should there be any change fees imposed by any airlines or ground operators, or additional costs incurred due to the availability of any space, these costs will be invoiced to you and you will be responsible for payment thereof.

**SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS:** Should you wish to make additional travel plans, including specially arranged pre- or post-tour extensions different than those offered in conjunction with your tour, a service charge of \$150 per person (over and above the cost of the services required) will be assessed.

### **DOCUMENTS**

**PASSPORTS:** All individuals departing from the United States of America must be in possession of a valid passport. Please check that your passport is valid for at least 6 months beyond your intended return date. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have valid travel documentation, including but not limited to passports and visas, which meet the requirements of immigration and other government authorities at every destination. You are responsible for confirming with the United States Department of State or the representative government agency of the country to which you are traveling to confirm the requirements for visas and/or other requirements for admission to your destination. Any fines, penalties, payments, or expenditures incurred as a result of such documents not meeting the requirements of those authorities will be your sole responsibility.

**REAL ID:** Beginning May 7, 2025, if you plan to use your state-issued ID or license to fly within the U.S., it is your responsibility to make sure it is REAL ID compliant. If you are not sure if your ID complies, please check with your local state Department of Motor Vehicles or visit [www.tsa.gov/real-id](http://www.tsa.gov/real-id).

**TRAVEL DOCUMENTS:** It is the responsibility of each Traveler to obtain and carry a valid passport, visa(s), and all other documents required by applicable government regulations. When traveling domestically or internationally, the U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) advise that everyone carry acceptable identification in order to board a flight. Acceptable identification can be found at <http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/acceptable-ids>. The name, date of birth and gender that appears on the identification card must exactly match the same such data that is listed on airline ticket(s) and booking records. You acknowledge any failure to strictly comply with these requirements may result in denied boarding or an undue delay at an airport security checkpoint causing Traveler to miss flight(s), and subsequent scheduled travel bookings on cruises and tours.



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Travel documents include, without limitation, airline tickets, hotel vouchers, tour vouchers, or any other document (whether in electronic form or otherwise) used to confirm an arrangement with a service provider. Travel documents may be subject to certain conditions and/or restrictions such as, but not limited to, being non-refundable, non-date-changeable, and subject to cancellation and/or amendment fees. Travel documents cannot be transferred to another person to use. All airline tickets must be issued in the name of the passport/photo identity holder. An incorrect name on a booking may result in an inability to use that booking and the booking being cancelled. Any errors in names, dates, and timings may result in an inability to use that booking and the booking being cancelled. Any errors in names, dates, and timings on your documentation will be your responsibility if we are not advised at the time of booking. Please reconfirm your flights at least 24 hours prior to departure.

**PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION:** Upon receipt of your registration and deposit, we will send you an electronic pre-departure packet containing all the information you need to prepare for your tour, including the complete itinerary, packing checklist, required documents, insurance information, etc.

**FINAL DOCUMENTS:** Electronic final documents and air e-tickets will be sent to you approximately two weeks prior to departure, provided all monies have been paid in full.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

**AIR TRANSPORTATION:** Your program does not include international airfare. If you require assistance, contact Classic Escapes.

**FREQUENT FLYER MILEAGE:** Check on the airline's website to enquire who their partners are. Obtain frequent flyer mileage on any of these carriers. Present your frequent flyer card for all flight check-ins and keep the boarding passes until you receive a statement with the mileage credit.

**TRANSFERS:** Roundtrip airport transfers are included in the tour for guests arriving on group flights. If travelers make their own air arrangements, they will be subject to extra transfer fees.

**FLIGHT CONFIRMATION:** We strongly suggest that you reconfirm exact flight times with the carrier prior to departure. Air travelers are required to check in at least 2 hours prior to departure time for domestic flights and 3 hours for international flights and must report to the gate at least 30 minutes prior to departure time. Failure to comply may result in the loss of the seat to another passenger.

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS:** Federal law prohibits passengers from bringing hazardous materials on the aircraft. Federal law forbids the carriage of hazardous materials aboard aircraft in the passenger's luggage or on the passenger's person. A violation can result in five years' imprisonment and penalties of \$250,000 or more (49 U.S.C. 5124). Hazardous materials include explosives, compressed gases, flammable liquids and solids, oxidizers, poisons, corrosives, and radioactive materials. Examples: Paints, lighter fluid, fireworks, tear gases, oxygen bottles, and radiopharmaceuticals. There are special exceptions for small quantities (up to 70 ounces total) of medicinal and toilet articles carried in the passenger's luggage and certain smoking materials carried on the passenger's person. For further information, each passenger should contact the relevant airline representative(s) on their itinerary. Restrictions on hazardous materials are listed <http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/prohibited-items>.

**INSECTICIDE NOTICE:** Some countries require insecticide spraying of aircraft prior to a flight or while you are on the aircraft. We recommend that you refer to the Department of Transportation's list of airports in countries that require airlines to treat the passenger cabin with insecticides prior to the flight or while on the aircraft available at <https://www.dot.gov/office-policy/aviation-policy/aircraft-disinsection-requirements>.

**BAGGAGE & FEES:** Additional fees for baggage may apply. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding its checked baggage policies. On average, international flights from the USA allow one piece of checked luggage, not exceeding 50 pounds, plus a carry-on piece not exceeding 15 pounds; however, we always recommend that you check your airline's policy just before departure, as luggage limitations are always subject to change. There may also be luggage and weight restrictions for your destination and that information will be forwarded to you with your pre-departure material and also listed on your final documents.

**AIRLINE CLAUSE:** The airlines concerned are not to be held liable for any act, omission, or event during the time the passengers are not on board their planes or conveyance. The passengers' tickets in use by the airline or by other carriers concerned when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of these tickets and/or passengers.

**DELAYS:** We cannot be held liable for any delays or additional costs incurred as a result of airlines not running to schedule. Any additional land or air fees imposed on account of airline delays will be borne by the traveler.



### TRIP DETAILS

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** You will marvel at the wonderful accommodations provided throughout your tour. All rooms have private bathroom facilities and air conditioning and/or fans, unless otherwise specified. All rates are based on double occupancy. Most rooms are twin-bedded, but king-size beds are occasionally available and should be requested in advance. Accommodations listed in this itinerary are correct at time of writing, but on rare occasions may be substituted for a different property of comparable quality.

**MEALS:** All meals as specified in the itinerary. Please notify us if you have special dietary needs or requests, and we will do our best to accommodate.

**WATER:** It is always advisable to drink bottled and/or filtered water when traveling overseas. Safe drinking water will be provided to travelers free of charge in the vehicles and during meals.

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** The Company reserves the right without further notice to make use of any photograph or video taken on the tour by our photographers without payment or permission. We guarantee that no photographs of a compromising nature will be used.

**GUIDES:** If one of Classic Escapes' guides are unable to take a trip due to circumstances out of our control (i.e., illness, etc.), we reserve the right to substitute with another guide.

**TOUR ITINERARY:** To the best of our knowledge the itinerary is correct at the time of printing. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies or changes that may occur after printing.

**HEALTH AND SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:** You must have the proper immunizations and health screenings and required documentation of such immunizations and screenings before travel. It is your responsibility to ensure you are aware of any health requirements, health advisories, or health travel restrictions applicable to your travel destinations and to ensure that you carry all necessary vaccination documentation. Classic Escapes is not responsible for providing you with this information. Travel carriers and local authorities at travel destinations may require specific testing prior to boarding and/or upon arrival at your destination, including, but not limited to, a temperature check as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. You may be denied entry onto your carrier and/or entry upon arrival at your destination or be required to self-quarantine at your destination and upon your return to the United States. You must comply with local government regulations. Any additional costs are your responsibility. Check the State Department Web site <http://travel.state.gov>, for relevant information relating to travel to specific destinations, and the Center for Disease Control <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/> relating to health issues related to travel.

You must be in good physical and mental health. It shall be your duty to inform us in case you have any medical condition that may affect your ability to enjoy and pursue fully the services of Classic Escapes. By registering for a Classic Escapes service/program, you certify that you do not have any mental, physical, or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for yourself or others.

### **COVID-19 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

In order to participate in one of our tours, travelers must certify that they have not recently been treated for, nor are aware of any physical or other condition or liability that would create a hazard to themselves or other members of the tour and agree to comply with all health protocols as directed by Classic Escapes and their representatives during their journey. Travelers must be vigilant regarding COVID and frequently wash or sanitize hands throughout their journey. While there are no COVID restrictions any longer, travelers may wish to wear masks in areas that are most prone to exposure. **Travelers voluntarily assume all risks and related expenses in the event that they or any member of their traveling party require testing, quarantine, or become infected with COVID-19.** Classic Escapes will endeavor to provide assistance wherever possible.

**EMERGENCY EVACUATION COVERAGE:** For the convenience of our travelers, Classic Escapes provides a complimentary Medical Insurance Plan during your trip via Travel Guard Group, Inc. This includes:

- Emergency evacuation insurance up to \$100,000.
- Up to \$25,000 medical expense and up to \$500 dental expense coverage subject to the terms and limitations of the insurance policy.
- 24-hour worldwide travel and medical assistance.

Medical Plan (926801)

Please click here to view complete coverage of details.

[https://webservices.travelguard.com/Product/FileRetrieval.aspx?CountryCode=US&StateCode=AL&ProductCode=926801&PlanCode=NW&FileType=PROD\\_PLAN\\_GM](https://webservices.travelguard.com/Product/FileRetrieval.aspx?CountryCode=US&StateCode=AL&ProductCode=926801&PlanCode=NW&FileType=PROD_PLAN_GM)



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## **TERMS & CONDITIONS**

**TOUR OPERATOR:** Classic Escapes acts as a tour operator/travel agent only. Classic Escapes does not own, operate, manage, or control any independent suppliers of services and is not liable for their acts or omissions. Classic Escapes' obligations to you are to make travel bookings on your behalf and to arrange relevant contracts between you and other travel service providers. We have no responsibility for these services, nor do we have the authority to make any warranty or representation regarding their standard. Requests cannot be guaranteed. All bookings are subject to the terms and conditions and limitations of liability imposed by these travel service providers. You understand that your legal recourse is against the specific provider, not Classic Escapes. Conditions can change rapidly in a country at any time. It is your responsibility to check the USA Government Travel advisories for your intended destination at <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel.html>.

**RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COMPANY:** We always do our best to make sure your travel arrangements are satisfactory. However, Classic Escapes and its employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors, successors, agents, and assigns do not own or operate any third-party entity that provides goods and services for your travel, including without limitation lodging facilities, airline, vessel, motorcoach, or other transportation companies, local ground operators, providers, food service providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors and are in no way affiliated to Classic Escapes. We are not liable for any delays or additional costs incurred by the Traveler as a result of any actions or occurrences by any of the foregoing third party entities.

**LIABILITY:** Classic Escapes is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any travel service provider or of any third party.

Because Classic Escapes does not have the right to control the operations of such travel service provider or any third party, you agree that Classic Escapes is not liable for any personal injury or property damage which may arise out of these services. Classic Escapes hereby disclaims any liability whether based on contract, tort, strict liability or otherwise, including without limitation liability for any direct, punitive, special consequential, incidental or indirect damages, in connection with the goods or services provided by any supplier booking through Classic Escapes, including without limitation liability for any act, error, omission, injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be incurred through the fault, negligence, willful acts, omissions or otherwise of such travel service provider or any third party, or their respective employees, agents, servants, or representatives, including, without limitation, their failure to deliver or their partial or inadequate delivery of services, their cancellation and refund policies, fuel increases, bankruptcy or cessation of operations and other matters outside of Classic Escapes' control, and you hereby exonerate Classic Escapes from any liability with respect to the same.

**FORCE MAJEURE:** Classic Escapes will not be in breach of these terms and conditions or otherwise be liable to you, for any failure or delay in performing an obligation under this Agreement that is due to any of the following causes, to the extent beyond its reasonable control: acts of God, accident, riots, war, terrorist act, illness, disease, epidemic, pandemic, quarantine, civil commotion, breakdown of communication facilities, including web host and internet service provider, breakdown or malfunction of equipment, destruction of or serious damage to facilities, natural catastrophes including, but not limited to extreme weather events, floods and volcanic eruptions, governmental acts or omissions, changes in laws or regulations, national strikes, fire, explosion, generalized lack of availability of raw materials or energy, and any other unforeseen circumstance which is beyond the control of Classic Escapes. THE PURCHASE OF TRAVEL INSURANCE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED ON ALL TRIPS.

**REFUSAL OF SERVICE:** Service providers reserve the right to refuse service to travelers at their sole discretion, including, without limitation, if the traveler: (i) lacks proper documentation for the country of destination; (ii) has a contagious disease; (iii) is under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or narcotics; and/or (iv) manifests disruptive and/or unruly behavior. Classic Escapes assumes no liability for the acts of the service provider in refusing service.

**ELECTRONIC OR HANDWRITTEN SIGNATURE:** Both parties agree that you may acknowledge and agree to these Terms: (i) electronically; (ii) by handwritten signature; (iii) by any other electronic means, including, without limitation, via email acceptance of these Terms; or (iv) by your implied consent deemed via your actions, which shall include without limitation the payment of the invoice in part or in full or your use of the services provided by Classic Escapes or any other travel supplier related to your booking. All such means will be deemed to constitute effective acknowledgement and execution of this Agreement and shall be sufficient to bind the parties to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

**RESERVATION OF RIGHTS:** We reserve the right, in our sole discretion, to change these Terms and Conditions at any time. Updated versions of the Terms will be provided to you, will be posted on our website, and are effective immediately on posting.

**GOVERNING LAW:** The construction, validity, and performance of these Terms and any disputes between the parties shall be governed by and construed according to the laws of the State of New York, without giving effect to its conflict of law principles, and any federal laws applicable therein. Both parties submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of the State of New York with respect to any legal proceedings relating to these Terms.



**RESERVATION FORM:****WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL~ SOUTH & SRI LANKA**

26ASG1013WAC

Enclosed is my deposit for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$1,700 per person for the main and \$700 for the extension) to hold \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) on the Tour to South India & Sri Lanka departing on October 13, 2026. Check Your Journey at a Glance for all costs associated to this tour.

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. By selecting this payment method, you acknowledge and agree to this additional fee. Please indicate below how you wish to make your payment.

I will pay my deposit by: ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ Check ☐ Wire Transfer

I will pay my balance by: ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ Check ☐ Wire Transfer

(Credit Card Authorization form needs to be completed and returned to Classic Escapes via mail, scan and email, or fax to 718-204-4726)

Please make checks payable to CLASSIC ESCAPES and mail to 191 W Poplar Street, Floral Park, NY 11001

Final payment due date is July 10, 2026

**A copy of your passport must accompany this form to confirm your reservation. Upon receipt of your signed reservation form, passport copy, and deposit we will, subject to availability, reserve your spot on the tour. Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months after the return of your trip and have two consecutive blank pages in the visa section.**

1) NAME (As appears on passport): ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (M/D/Y) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

2) NAME (As appears on passport): ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (M/D/Y) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

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

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

PHONES: HOME: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ OFFICE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ MOBILE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ 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.

☐ The two of us above are sharing a room and, where possible, would like a room with: ☐ ONE ☐ TWO Beds (Make one selection only)

☐ I am sharing with \_\_\_\_\_ (form sent separately)

☐ I need assistance in securing a roommate. I understand if a roommate cannot be located for me by final payment date, I agree to pay the additional single room supplement. I prefer to share with: ☐ Smoker ☐ Non-smoker.

☐ 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.

**CLASSIC ESCAPES CAN ASSIST WITH INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS FROM ANY US CITY.**

☐ YES, I WILL REQUIRE ASSISTANCE. PLEASE SEND ME INFORMATION TO DEPART FROM \_\_\_\_\_  
I REQUIRE: ☐ ECONOMY ☐ BUSINESS/FIRST CLASS

All rates quoted are based on tariffs and value of foreign currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar in effect as of February 18, 2025 and are subject to change. Cancellation penalties are applicable as outlined on Conditions of Travel. **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).**

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

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

CLASSIC ESCAPES INC.  
191 W Poplar Street,  
Floral Park, NY 11001

(We recommend that you keep a copy of your selections as noted above for your future reference)

**WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL ~ SOUTH INDIA & SRI LANKA**  
**OCTOBER 13 TO 26, 2026**

**CREDIT CARD PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION**

*Please Note: If you wish to charge your deposit to Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover, this authorization form MUST be completed and returned to us along with your reservation form before we can process your application.*

I authorize (**Classic Escapes Inc.**) to charge my VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVER/AMEX listed below:

Name appearing on credit card \_\_\_\_\_

Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Card Verification Number\* \_\_\_\_\_ Card Type \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address of credit card \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of transaction \_\_\_\_\_

Services rendered/Items purchased \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**\*How to Locate Your Card Verification Number:**

**(Visa, MasterCard, Discover:** Locate the credit card number on the back of the card above the signature box. Enter the 3-digit number which follows the credit card number. **American Express:** Enter the 4-digit number found directly above and to the right of the credit card number.)

I understand that all rates quoted on this tour I'm making a payment on are based on tariffs and value of foreign currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar in effect as of February 18, 2025 and are subject to change 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.

These cancellation fees are also in addition to any fees imposed by airlines.

PLEASE NOTE: At times, our bank requires photocopy of credit card (both sides) and driver's license or document showing signature of cardholder, in order to process the charge. While it is not required at this time that you include these materials with your deposit, if our bank requests it, we will contact you for these copies.