

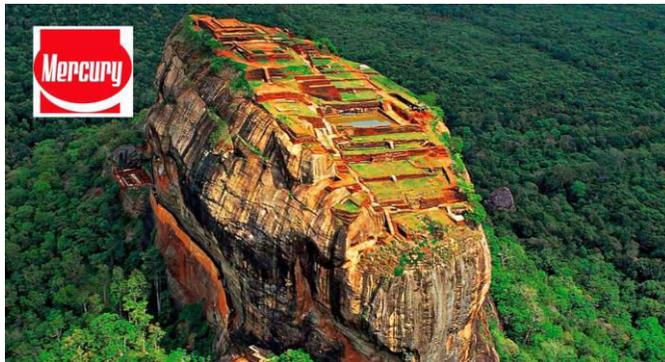
Sri Lanka Tourist attractions:

Set in the Indian Ocean in South Asia, the tropical island nation Sri Lanka has a history dating back to the birth of time. It is a place where the original soul of Buddhism still flourishes and where nature's beauty remains abundant and unspoilt.

Few places in the world can offer the traveler such a remarkable combination of stunning landscape, pristine beaches, captivating cultural heritage and unique experiences within such a compact location.

Within a mere area of 65,600 kilometers lie 8 UNESCO World Heritage sites, 330 kilometers of coastline – much of it pristine beach- 15 national park showcasing an abundance of wildlife, nearly 500000 acres of lush tea estates, 250 acres of botanical gardens, 350 waterfalls, 25000 water bodies, to a culture that extends back over 2500 years.

This is an island of magical proportions, once known as Serendib, Taprobane, the Pearl of the Indian Ocean, and Ceylon.



Colombo, the capital of Sri Lanka, has a long history as a part on ancient east –west trade routes, ruled successively by the Portuguese, Dutch and British. That heritage is reflected in its architecture, mixing colonial buildings with high rises and shopping malls. The imposing Colombo National Museum, dedicated to Sri Lanka history, borders sprawling Viharamahadevi Park and its giant Buddha.

Sigiriya, The citadel of Sigiriya, the literal fortress in Sky, founded 1,500 years ago by the King Kassapa(447-495 A.D), is one of the most remarkable creations in the world for its constructions, artistry



and irrigation . Once being a resort of pleasure, a citadel of beauty and fortress of strength, today, Sigiriya offers her visitors.

Yala, situated 309 km south of Colombo. Yala is approximately 1259sq, km in extent and is located in the south eastern corner of the island. Its northern boundaries border the Lahugala Elephant Sanctuary and it has the added bonus of scenic ocean frontage. The terrain is varied-flat plains alternating with rocky outcrops.

Kandy the hill capital, the last kingdom in Sri Lankan history, as described by the British Governor Sir William Gregory(1872 – 1877), is the 'loveliest town in the loveliest island'. Kandy was identified as the most picturesque spot in the British Empire. While being the most venerated city among the Buddhist world over due.

Nuwara Eliya is a city in the tea country hills of central Sri Lanka. The naturally landscaped Hakgala Botanical Gardens displays roses and tree ferns, and shelters monkeys and blue magpies. Nearby Seetha Amman Temple, a colorful Hindu shrine is decorated with religious figures. Densely forest Galway's Land National Park is a sanctuary for endemic and migratory bird species, including bulbuls and flycatchers.

Bentota. There are several lovely beaches in Bentota areas, like the Moragalla Beach (just where the Bentota Ganga River meets the ocean) and Ventura Beach. They are more informally referred to simply as Benzoate Beach, and together they make a very long stretch of fine white sand. One of the most popular activities in Bentota, beside beach bumming and water sports, is going on a boat trip on the river Bentota Ganga.