SRI LANKA Ramayana Yatra

7 nights -8 days

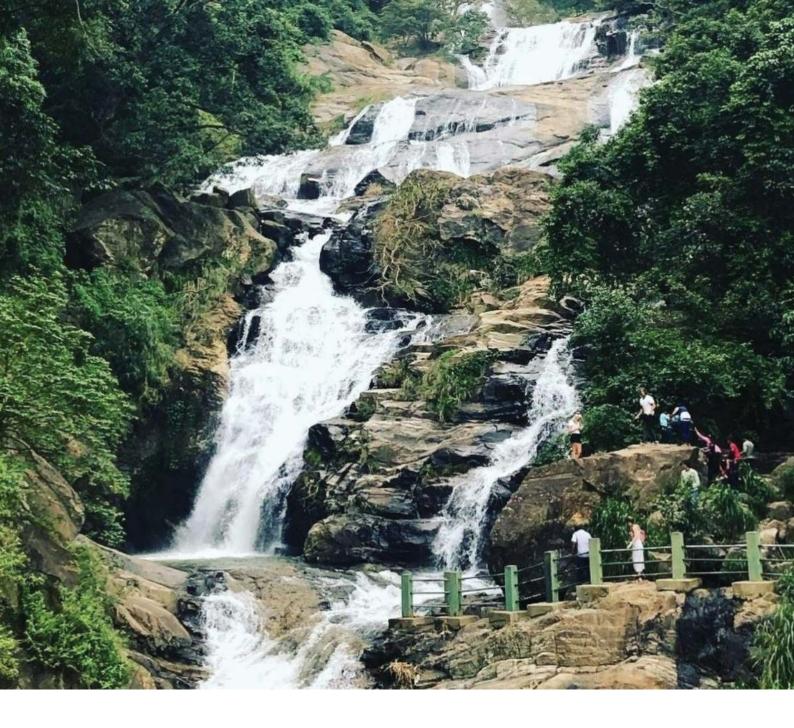












# **ITINERARY:**

# TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy a city tour of Negombo
- Visit Muneeshwaram Temple
- Visit to the Ramboda falls and Seetha Amman temple
- Visit breathtaking waterfall Ravana Falls
- Kataragama Temple
- Enjoy a city tour of Galle
- Visit to Seenigama temple and Panchamuga Anjaneyar Temple

# Day 01- Airport - Negombo

On arrival in Sri Lanka, you will be warmly greeted by your chauffeur who will transfer you to the fishing village, Negombo. Spend the day at leisure relaxing at the hotel. Optionally you can do some sightseeing in Negombo city including a visit to a fish market and the Dutch canal.

# Day 02 - Negombo – Chilaw - Kandy

After breakfast proceed to Chilaw to the Muneeshwaram Temple. After his victorious battle, Lord Rama left for Ayodhya, in one of King Ravana's vimana (carriages). He felt he was being followed by bramhaasthi dosham (the sin of killing a brahmin) as he had killed King Ravana who was a Brahmin. Legend has it that when he came to this place he felt the sin was not following him and he stopped the carriage to ask God Shiva for a remedy.

Afterwards proceed to Kandy and enjoy a relaxed evening.

# Day 03 - Kandy > Nuwara Eliya

After breakfast proceed to Nuwara Eliya. On the way there, visit the Sri Baktha Hanuman Temple, Ramboda. On these hills of Ramboda, where Hanuman was searching for Sitadevi, the Chinmaya mission of Sri Lanka built a temple with Hanuman as the presiding deity. On every full moon day special poojas are conducted and witnessed by thousands of devotees.

Afterwards proceed to Nuwara Eliya and en route, visit the Seetha Amman Temple in Seetha Eliya. The stream that runs from the hill, catered to the needs of Sitadevi during her stay at Ashoka Vatika. She is said to have bathed in this stream. Now there is a temple erected for Lord Rama, Sitadevi, Luxshmana and Hanuman by the side of this stream. It is interesting to note that foot prints akin to Lord Hamunams are found by this river – some small and some large.

#### Day 04 - Nuwara Eliya > Ella

After breakfast, set off to the quiet city, Ella. Once there, visit the breathtaking waterfall, Ravana Ella Falls (cascading into several falls). The stream, a tributary of Kirindi Oya plunges with a foaming spray over a series of ledges into the valley close to a bend in the road. The waters rise from Wewatenna highland above the rocks. In general the rocky underground of the waterfalls in Sri Lanka consists of hard gneiss or granite, but here the material is khondalite, a kind of limestone which undergoes decay faster. This has resulted in many caves being formed near the falls. It is believed that Sita bathed in a pool that accumulated the water falling from this waterfall. You can also visit some of the caves that are around Ravana falls. Later in the afternoon enjoy a city tour in Ella and spend a leisurely evening.

### Day 05 - Ella > Kataragama

After breakfast proceed to the spiritual city of Kataragama. Once in Kataragama visit the Kataragama shrine, dedicated to God Skanda (Murugan) the God of Love and War. It is believed that this Devala was inaugurated in the 2nd Century B.C. by King Dutugemunu (167–137 B.C.). Today Kataragama is a place of worship for Buddhists, Hindus and some Muslims.



#### Day 06 - Kataragama > Galle

After breakfast proceed to the historical city of Galle. Once in the city discover the city of Galle, where the Portuguese and Dutch made their headquarters, and its secrets. Visit the Galle Fort which is one of the best preserved fortifications in Asia. View the Maritime Museum, Galle National Museum and the lighthouse. Walk through the cobblestoned streets with their Dutch names as you learn more about their histories.

In the afternoon visit the Rumassala Rock. Rumassala rock is one of the five Sri Lankan spots believed to originate from parts of Mount Dronagiri. They fell down when Hanuman carried the Dronagiri on his flight back to Lanka in order to use its Sanjiwani herb to rescue Lakhshmana and Rama who were in need of this medical plant to be reanimated after suffering severe injuries. Rumassala is also said to be an abode of Sita during her stay in Lanka. Spend the evening in leisure by the ocean.

#### Day 07 - Galle > Colombo

After breakfast proceed to Colombo. En-route make a stop at Seenigama temple. Seenigama temple is situated on a very small island. This Devale is dedicated to the local God Devol Deviyo, who protects fishermen and their boats. The Ramayana trail legend has it that Seenigama was the landing place from where Sugriva, King of the Varanas and their monkey army, launched his onslaught on Ravana's demon army.

Afterwards proceed to Colombo and visit the Panchamuga Anjaneyar Temple, which is a temple dedicated to Anjaneyar in Sri Lanka. This is the only temple in the world to have a chariot of Anjaneyar. You can spend the rest of the day enjoying some sightseeing in Colombo along with some shopping before transferring to the hotel.

#### Day 08 - Colombo > Airport

As all good things must come to an end, your chauffeur guide will comfortably take you to the international airport in time for your return flight.