



SRI LANKA

THE TOUR OF
LOCAL ENGAGEMENT & CULTURAL AWARENESS





ABOUT THE LOCAL ENGAGEMENT TOUR

Traveling, exploring new places, engaging with new people, and discovering the beauty of the world are extraordinary leisure activities. Sri Lanka is a captivating kaleidoscope of tradition, culture, and natural charm. The remarkable unity exemplified by the people of Sri Lanka, who represent a wide array of cultures, religions, languages, and customs, is truly inspiring. Our local engagement and cultural awareness tour package offers an opportunity to create unforgettable memories in Sri Lanka. You'll immerse yourself in the lifestyle of its locals, participate in their daily activities, and experience the authentic local way of life firsthand, all while enjoying your travels. This enriching journey promises to deepen your appreciation for diverse cultures and provide you with experiences that will stay with you long after your trip has ended.



THE ADVANTAGES OF TRAVELING WITH US

Travel Photographers As Drivers: Our drivers are not just chauffeurs; they are trained photographers, capturing stunning images of your travel experiences. You'll receive high quality photos of each destination visited.

Modern Transportation Options: Whether you prefer a comfortable car, spacious van, or accommodating minivan, we offer modern and well-maintained vehicles specifically tailored to suit your travel needs.

Tourist Board Approved Drivers: Our drivers are officially approved by the Sri Lankan tourist board, ensuring professionalism, adherence to safety standards, and exceptional service throughout your journey.



EXPERIENCE AUTHENTIC SRI LANKAN LIFE

Our main goal is to help travelers experience the everyday life of the people in the places they visit in Sri Lanka. We believe the best way to understand a culture is by joining in with the things locals do every day. This involvement not only makes the trip more interesting for travelers but also helps them connect with the people and customs that make each place special. And it's not just about learning; it's also a lot of fun! Our tours are all about giving travelers moments of happiness, new discoveries, and a better understanding of how diverse Sri Lanka can be. By engaging deeply with local life, travelers return home with enriching experiences and a lasting connection to the vibrant essence of Sri Lanka.



EFFORTLESS DRONE PERMISSION SERVICES

Experience the hassle-free solution to obtaining official clearance for drone flights in Sri Lanka. We understand the complexities involved in navigating regulations from multiple authorities such as the civil aviation authority, central cultural fund, and department of archaeology. With our streamlined process, we take the burden off your shoulders, handling all the paperwork and coordination to ensure swift approval for your drone operations. Navigating drone permissions for archaeological sites in Sri Lanka, such as Sigiriya and Polonnaruwa, can be a daunting task. With strict regulations in place to preserve these historical treasures, obtaining clearance for drone flights can be challenging. However, our dedicated service focuses in securing permissions from the relevant authorities on your behalf.



TRAVEL PHOTOS AND TRAVEL VIDEOS

This tour is also an excellent option for travelers who prefer to have someone else capture their travel photos and videos. If you'd rather not lug around bulky, complicated, and heavy cameras everywhere you go but still desire professional quality visuals of your journey, then this tour is perfect for you. Our photographer, Saman, will accompany you, capturing stunning photos and videos of the places you visit. This way, you can share the joy of your holiday experiences through beautifully managed images and videos. This photography and videography service is completely free of charge, capturing a fair amount of photos and videos.



ABOUT THE TOUR LEADER

Saman Weeratunga is a travel and portrait photographer based in Kandy, the central part of Sri Lanka. Travel and photography are his passion, and he has traveled to some truly remarkable countries, including Switzerland, Austria, France, Germany, Poland, the Netherlands, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Singapore, and Malaysia. Each journey has been a unique experience, filled with breathtaking sights and unforgettable moments for him. However, his thirst for exploration remains unquenched, and he's constantly adding new destinations to his ever growing list of places to visit. Whether it's capturing amazing local portraits, the vibrant streets of a bustling city, or the serene beauty of a remote landscape, he's always ready to pack his camera bags and set off on another unforgettable travel photo journey.



AN ELEPHANT CARING IN SIGIRIYA

Experience local engagement with a mahout, the elephant handler in caring for a captive elephant. Assist in feeding these majestic creatures, enjoy the bonding experience of bathing them, and take a memorable walk alongside the elephant. These domesticated elephants are incredibly friendly and offer wonderful opportunities for memorable photos with these magnificent animals. However, we do not encourage riding the elephants, as we prioritize their well-being and comfort. Instead, we invite you to engage with them in respectful and enriching ways, ensuring a positive experience for both you and the elephants.



SRI LANKA'S INDIGENOUS VEDDAS' IN DAMBANA

Experience local engagement with the Vedda, an indigenous group of people in Sri Lanka, by walking to a mud hut, learning how they hunt using bows and arrows, and observing the traditional method of making fire by rubbing stones. You can also witness their ritual traditional dancing, accompanied by songs, while enjoying a healthy Ayurveda drink with jaggery. This session is held away from the usual tourist areas, providing a unique opportunity to engage with their local lifestyle without other tourist groups around.



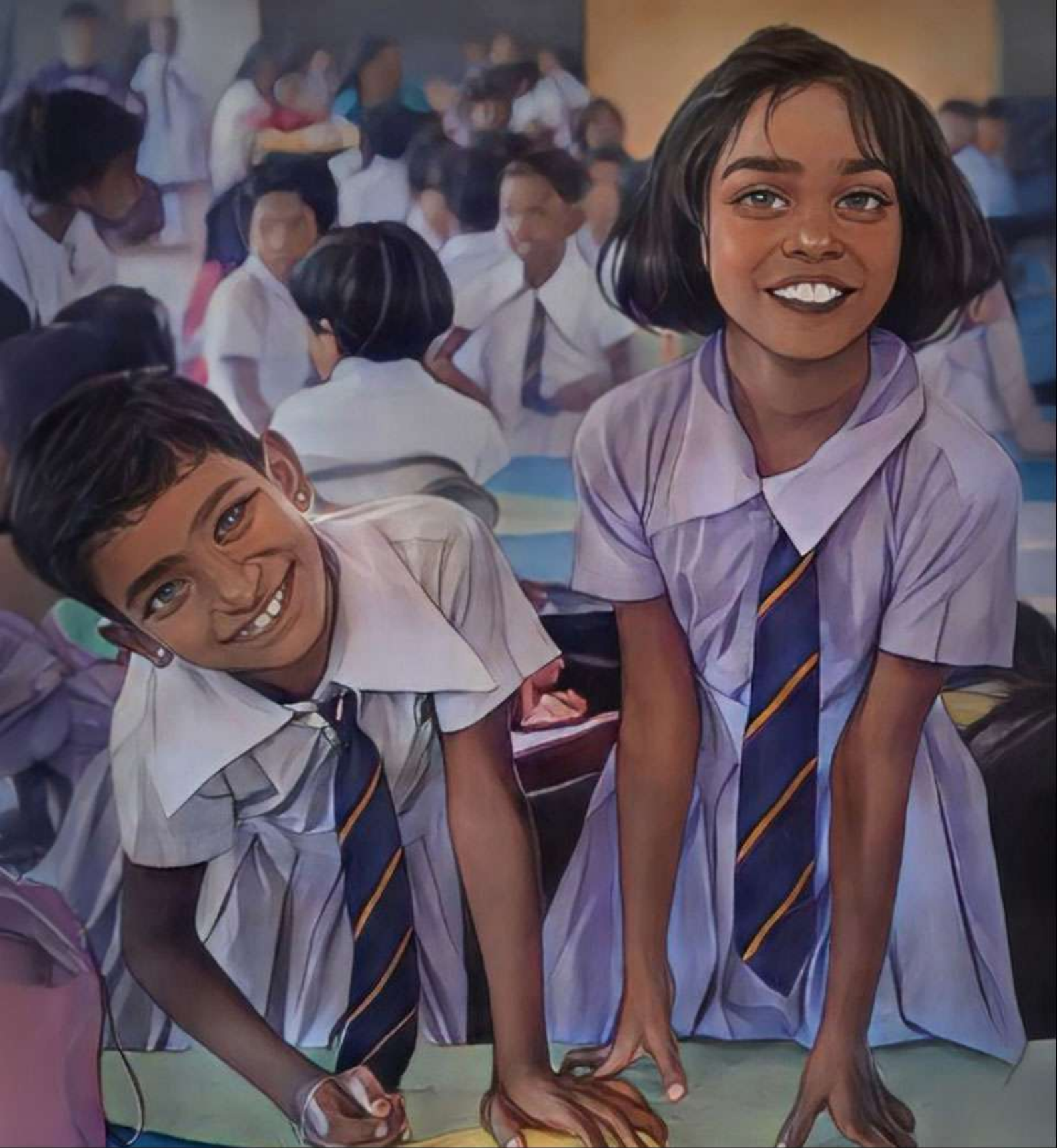
CULTURAL DANCING ACADEMY IN GADALADENYIA

Experience local engagement with a traditional dance instructor by learning the traditional Sinhalese dances. You'll have the opportunity to master the basic steps of three significant dance styles known as Uda rata, Pahatha rata, and Sabaragamuwa. Additionally, You'll learn to play the relevant drum rhythms for each of these three dance styles.



MONKS PIRIVEN EDUCATION TEMPLE IN KANDY

Experience local engagement with little Buddhist monks by observing how they learn the Pali language, literature, culture, traditions, history, and heritage. Additionally, you can share a small, entertaining English lesson with the little monks to bring joy to their day. Finally, receive blessings and have a blessed thread tied around your wrist by the monks.



RURAL SCHOOL IN DAMBETHENNA

Experience local engagement with underprivileged school students by visiting a rural school and witnessing firsthand the challenges they face due to the lack of facilities for learning. With permission from the school principal, you can share a small, entertaining English lesson, sing with them, and enjoy a joyful time in their small classroom. Offering chocolates, sweets, and school stationery can bring immense happiness to these underprivileged children who struggle with financial constraints for their education.



TEA PLUCKERS ON TEA FIELD IN DAMBETHENNA

Experience local engagement with traditional tea pluckers by witnessing how they expertly pick young green tea leaves. Learn to identify which fields need plucking based on the lighter color tips of the bushes. You can also try your hand at tea plucking alongside the traditional Tamil tea pluckers, dressed in similar colorful clothing. Additionally, visit a nearby Hindu temple to admire the beautiful architectural statues of gods and other deities.



TEA WORKERS' VILLAGE IN DAMBETHENNA

Experience local engagement with Tamil villages by taking a stroll around their colorful, quaint houses. These villages, whose residents work in tea plantations, are among the most economically deprived in Sri Lanka. As you walk through the village, you will encounter many underprivileged children. Offering them chocolates, sweets, and school stationery can bring great joy to them, and witnessing their big smiles after your kind gestures will be incredibly gratifying.



TUK TUK RIDING EXPERIENCE IN HAPUTALE

Experience local engagement with a Tuk Tuk driver by traveling in his vibrant vehicle while taking in the spectacular, breathtaking views of the mountains and tea fields. Listen to fascinating stories about the area from your friendly Tuk Tuk driver as he stops at stunning panoramic viewpoints. If you build a friendly rapport, you might even get the exciting opportunity to try your hand at driving the Tuk Tuk yourself.



SCENIC TRAIN JOURNEY FROM ELLA TO KANDY

Experience a scenic train journey through the beautiful mountains of tropical Sri Lanka. The views on both sides of the train are breathtaking. As the train winds through the mountains, you'll overlook farms, villages, and vast tea plantations, with the scenery changing throughout the trip. It's also a great opportunity to interact with local people traveling by train, enjoy friendly conversations, take photos with them, and add to the enjoyment of this scenic experience.



WILD ELEPHANT JEEP SAFARI IN MINNERIYA

Experience the wild elephant jeep safari in Minneriya national park, where you'll witness the splendid sight of around 150 to 200 majestic Sri Lankan elephants gathering in wide grass fields. This unique safari offers an unforgettable opportunity to observe these magnificent creatures up close as they roam freely in their natural habitat. As the elephants and their babies start their evening activities, you'll learn more about their behavior and interactions, helping you better appreciate Sri Lanka's diverse wildlife.



STILT FISHERMEN IN KOGGALA

Experience local engagement with traditional stilt fishermen by visiting a small roadside fishing spot during sunrise or sunset. This ancient fishing method is nearly outdated, with only a few fishermen still practicing it. They primarily fish during the west monsoon months of April and May. During other months, they demonstrate this ancient tradition to foreigners. You also can try this fishing method yourself by sitting on perched vertical poles with crossbars, using a traditional fishing rod to catch small fish.



GIRAGAMA TEA FACTORY IN PILIMATHALAWA

Experience learning everything about Ceylon tea while witnessing the step-by-step manufacturing process. You will be taken around the factory and shown how tea is manufactured, graded, and packed for export. You'll gain an understanding of why certain teas taste as they do. The tea shop within the factory premises offers a great selection of factory-fresh tea in various grades to choose from, allowing you to find the perfect blend to savor or share with friends and family.



CLAY POTTERY FACTORY IN MENIKHINNA

Experience local engagement with a clay pottery maker and learn the art of transforming raw clay into beautiful pottery using traditional methods and equipment. You can also try your hand at pottery making by shaping raw clay using your hands and a pottery wheel.



SINHALESE TRADITIONAL VILLAGE IN SIGIRIYA

Experience local engagement with villagers and village life by taking a leisurely walk through the village, participating in an engaging cooking demonstration, and trying your hand at preparing traditional dishes. Enjoy the rewarding experience of savoring the delicious meals you've created while gaining a deeper understanding of local culinary traditions and the vibrant culture of the community.



ANCIENT RUINED CITY IN POLONNARUWA

Experience traveling around the ancient city of Polonnaruwa, a site rich in historical and archaeological significance. Explore ancient Buddha statues, massive stupas, and many other fascinating structures from the era of the kings. You can also accompany a young monk from a nearby temple as you tour the city, capturing photographs of the monk in front of the grand statues and stupas, adding a sense of liveness to the historical backdrops.



SIGIRIYA ROCK FORTRESS IN SIGIRIYA

Experience climbing the ancient rock fortress of Sigiriya. This site of historical and archaeological significance is dominated by a massive granite column approximately 180 meters high. Sigiriya contains the ruins of an upper palace on the flat top of the rock, a mid-level terrace with the Lion Gate and mirror wall frescoes, and lower palaces clinging to the slopes below. As you ascend, you'll be rewarded with stunning panoramic views of the surrounding landscape and a deep appreciation for the craftsmanship of this remarkable historical site.

