



PHOTOGRAPHY OF PEOPLE OF

SRI LANKA

BEAUTIFUL SRI LANKA PHOTOGRAPHY TOURS

WWW.BSLPAT.COM



ABOUT THE PHOTO TOUR

Beautiful Sri Lanka Photography Tours is a travel agency specializing in organizing captivating photo tours in Sri Lanka, filled with excitement and amazement. Each of our tours is led by an experienced Sri Lankan travel photographer, ensuring photographers, travelers, or students are in the right places at the perfect moment to capture stunning photographs. The tours are designed to include, environmental portraits, candid portraits, posed portraits, cultural portraits, and character portraits. The tours mainly focus on photographing stilt fishermen, indigenous people, street vendors, tea pickers, elephant mahouts, and rural villages. The tours are perfect for anyone who has a passion for photography, whether you're traveling solo, with your partner, or with a small group of friends. Whether you're a seasoned photographer or just starting out, our tours are designed to cater to all skill levels.

<http://www.bslpat.com>



THE ADVANTAGES OF TRAVELING WITH US

Arrangement Of Photoshoots: We organize captivating photoshoots featuring the Veddas indigenous people, the picturesque tradition of stilt fishermen, the majestic elephant and its mahout, serene charm of rural villages etc.

Prioritize Engaging With Local People: At most photo locations we visit, we have a good connection with local people, ensuring convenient opportunities for authentic photography experiences.

Beginners Learn From Our Travel Photographer: If you're a beginner in photography, our travel photographer offers personalized instruction, helping you develop essential skills and gain valuable insights.

<http://www.bslpat.com>



ESSENTIAL CAMERA GEAR CHECKLIST

Camera Body: DSLR Or Mirrorless Camera With Versatile Zoom Lenses
(Ex. 24-70mm, 70-200mm)

Tripod: Essential For Stability, Especially In Low Light Conditions Or For Long Exposure Shots

Filters: Neutral Density, Polarizing, Or Graduated Filters To Control Light And Enhance Your Shots

Portable Lighting: Depending On Your Photography Style, Consider Bringing Portable Lights Or Reflectors For Added Creativity

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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.

<http://www.bslpat.com>



ABOUT THE PHOTO TOUR GUIDE

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.

<https://www.travellerstalephotostudio.com>



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<https://www.travellerstalephotostudio.com>

EDWARD HAMMOND
UNITED KINGDOM



AS A PHOTO TOUR GUIDE, SAMAN WAS EXCELLENT FROM BEFORE HE COLLECTED ME AT THE AIRPORT TO THE TIME WHEN I SAID GOODBYE 12 DAYS LATER. HE HAS CONTACTS WHICH MEANT I DIDN'T QUEUE ANYWHERE. HE KNOWS THE POPULAR PHOTO LOCATIONS AND LESS WELL-KNOWN ONES. I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO AS MUCH AS I DID WITHOUT HIS EXPERIENCE OF ALL THE LOCATIONS. AS A TUTOR, HE WAS PATIENT AND EFFECTIVE. HE SHARES IDEAS AND ENCOURAGES EXPERIMENTATION. I'VE NOW MADE THE TRANSITION TO FULLY MANUAL CONTROL OF MY CAMERA AND THE RESULTS ARE DEFINITELY BETTER. I LEARNED SO MUCH ABOUT THE CAPABILITIES OF MY OWN CAMERA AS A PERSON, HE'S CALM, POLITE, CAREFUL, PUNCTUAL AND COMPLETELY RELIABLE. HE WAS A PLEASURE TO WORK WITH AND I HOPE TO DO SO AGAIN IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE.

ALI KHATAW
UNITED STATES



I HAD THE PLEASURE OF HAVING SAMAN AS OUR PHOTO TOUR GUIDE DURING OUR 18-DAY TRIP TO SRI LANKA, AND I MUST SAY IT WAS AN INCREDIBLE EXPERIENCE. HE TOOK THE TIME TO UNDERSTAND MY PASSION FOR PHOTOGRAPHY AND ENSURED THAT OUR TRIP WAS TAILORED TO CAPTURE THE MOST STUNNING IMAGES OF SRI LANKA. WHAT STOOD OUT THE MOST ABOUT SAMAN WAS HIS PROFESSIONALISM AND RESPONSIBILITY. HE WAS ALWAYS PUNCTUAL, ORGANIZED, AND ENSURED THAT EVERYTHING WENT SMOOTHLY. HIS POLITE AND FRIENDLY NATURE MADE THE TRIP EVEN MORE ENJOYABLE, AND WE FELT COMFORTABLE AND WELL TAKEN CARE OF THROUGHOUT OUR TIME IN SRI LANKA. I CANNOT EMPHASIZE ENOUGH HOW HIGHLY I RECOMMEND SAMAN AS A PHOTO TOUR GUIDE. HIS EXPERTISE, DEDICATION, AND GENUINE PASSION FOR HIS WORK MAKE HIM AN EXCEPTIONAL COMPANION FOR ANY TRAVELER.

CHONG JAYMEE
SINGAPORE



WHAT STARTED OUT AS A TAG-ALONG TRIP WITH MY PHOTOGRAPHER FRIEND TURNED INTO AN 8-DAY PHOTOGRAPHY CRASH COURSE FOR ME! HAVING NOT USED A DSLR BEFORE, SAMAN HAD ENCOURAGED ME TO BORROW ONE TO BRING ALONG SO THAT HE COULD TEACH ME SOME BASICS. I HAVE LEARNT LOADS ABOUT PHOTOGRAPHY FROM SAMAN IN THOSE 8 DAYS AND GLAD TO SAY THAT I CAN NOW SHOOT IN MANUAL MODE WITH SOME CONFIDENCE. IN OUR TOUR, WE HAD COVERED MOUNTAINS, JUNGLES AND SEA, BUT MY FAVORITES WERE THE SAFARI TOUR TO KAUDULLA NATIONAL PARK. SAMAN WAS FLEXIBLE ENOUGH IN ACCOMMODATING OUR WISHES AND ALSO PROVIDED LOTS OF ADVICE ON STAYING SAFE. HE STAYED CONSTANTLY IN TOUCH EVEN BEFORE WE ARRIVED AS WELL AS THROUGHOUT THE TOUR AND ENSURED WE WERE TAKEN CARE OF.

SUSANNE DUEGGLIN
SWITZERLAND



I WAS LOOKING FOR A PHOTOGRAPHY TOUR FOR 8 DAYS AND HAD A LOT OF GROUND I WANTED TO COVER. AND SAMAN MADE THIS TRIP A GREAT EXPERIENCE! FROM THE FIRST CONTACT UNTIL THE END OF THE TOUR, SAMAN WAS A VERY PROFESSIONAL, ATTENTIVE, FUN AND VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE GUIDE, IN PHOTOGRAPHY AND HIS COUNTRY. HE ENCOURAGED ME TO USE MANUAL MODE MORE THAN I HAD EVER DONE BEFORE AND HAD A LOT OF PATIENCE WITH ME ASKING HIM OVER AND OVER THE SAME QUESTIONS. WITH SAMAN'S HELP I TOOK GREAT PICTURES! HE IS A VERY GOOD PHOTOGRAPHER AND JUST FUN TO BE AROUND WITH, A PERFECT TRAVEL BUDDY. SRI LANKAN PEOPLE ARE A PLEASURE TO BE AROUND, AND SAMAN IS NO DIFFERENT. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND HIS TOURS AND WHEN I COME BACK WITH MY PARTNER, I WILL CERTAINLY SEE YOU AGAIN, SAMAN!

ALEX DIAS
UNITED KINGDOM



I HAVE TO SAY FROM THE MOMENT WHEN I EMAILED FROM THE UK, SAMAN WAS NOT ONLY PROFESSIONAL AND FRIENDLY BUT HE WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO ENSURE I WAS GOING TO END UP WITH THE BEST POSSIBLE EXPERIENCE FOR ME, WHICH I DID. ON THE TOUR ITSELF, WE TOOK IN PLACES AND SCENES THAT I WOULD NEVER HAVE FOUND ON MY OWN, MY FAMILY JOINED US FOR PART OF THIS AND THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND CARE WE RECEIVED WERE AN EXAMPLE TO BEHOLD TO SO MANY OTHER COMPANIES IN THE TRAVEL INDUSTRY. THE PHOTOS I GOT AT THE END OF IT WERE AMAZING TOO, I THOUGHT I WAS FAIRLY ADVANCED BUT MANAGED TO LEARN A LOT ALONG THE WAY, AND BY THE END OF THE TOUR WE WERE SAD TO SEE SAMAN GO, HE BECAME MORE OF A FAMILY FRIEND THAN SOMEONE OFFERING A TOUR. SINCERE THANKS TO SAMAN FOR MAKING THIS TRIP EXTRA SPECIAL.

CHINYEE WONG
HONG KONG



WE SPENT FOUR DAYS TOURING THREE CITIES IN SRI LANKA WITH SAMAN AND HAD A MARVELOUS TIME EXPLORING AND SHOOTING AWAY IN THE COUNTRY. SAMAN WAS ATTENTIVE, HELPFUL AND PROVIDED US AMPLE TIPS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR PLACES TO VISIT AND ACTIVITIES TO DO. HE ALSO DID AN ADMIRABLE JOB ACCOMMODATING OUR WISHES AND DEMANDS. THE FEW DAYS TOURING WITH HIM MADE OUR TIME IN SRI LANKA THAT A WHOLE LOT MORE ENJOYABLE. IF YOU WANT TO PHOTOGRAPH THE DIVERSE PEOPLE AND LANDSCAPES OF THE COUNTRY, HE IS YOUR GUY. IF YOU WANT A FRIEND WHO SHARES YOUR INTERESTS OF PHOTOGRAPHY AND TRAVEL, HE IS YOUR GUY. I HAVE NO HESITATION IN RECOMMENDING SAMAN FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS OF ALL LEVELS OF EXPERIENCE.



PHOTOGRAPHY HIGHLIGHTS

Stilt Fishermen In Koggala (An Organized)

Stilt fishing is a method unique to Sri Lanka. The fishermen usually sit on a crossbar that is tied to a vertical pole driven into the sand several meters deep offshore. This is an organized photo session hiring a few stilt fishermen both at sunrise and sunset, with the possibility of requesting them to pose for photos. The intention of photography in this session is to showcase the traditional stilt fishing method in a silhouette photography style. Moreover, ND filters and a tripod can be used to take long exposure shots of the moving water with the stilt fishermen. It is also possible to take close-up portraits to highlight their facial features after sunrise. Fundamental photography techniques to consider in this session include natural framing, backlighting, silhouettes, and long exposure etc.



PHOTOGRAPHY HIGHLIGHTS

Ancient Ruins And Monks In Polonnaruwa (An Organized)

Polonnaruwa ruins vividly reflect the golden age and show some of the most well-preserved architectural treasures of Sri Lanka. This is an organized photo session with a request for special permission to enter the ruins area from the Department of Archaeology for sunrise and arranging some young Buddhist monks for the photo session. The intention of photography in this session is to show the ancient architecture of Sri Lanka and add liveliness to the ruins by capturing young monks in front of the ruins. Fundamental photography techniques to consider in this session include natural framing and backlighting, etc.



PHOTOGRAPHY HIGHLIGHTS

An Elephant & A Mahout In Sigiriya (An Organized)

Mahouts, often known as elephant handlers, work closely with captive Asian elephants. The daily tasks of mahouts can include feeding, cleaning, or bathing elephants. This is an organized photo session hiring an elephant and a mahout and bringing them near the lake in front of Sigiriya Rock. The intention of photography in this session is to show the bond between an elephant and a mahout and how the elephant can pose and react according to the orders of the mahout for the photos. Fundamental photography techniques to consider in this session include natural framing and backlighting etc.



PHOTOGRAPHY HIGHLIGHTS

Sri Lanka's Indigenous Veddas' In Dambana (An Organized)

The Veddas are Sri Lanka's aboriginal inhabitants, dating back to prior to the 6th century BCE. Today, they live in regular in houses and huts, with only a few still maintaining the traditional long hair and beards. This is an organized photo session hiring a few Veddas to shoot in their small hut and the surrounding area, which is away from the regular touristic Vedda village nearby. The intention of photography in this session is to showcase the aboriginal appearance of the Veddas, their culture. Fundamental photography techniques to consider in this session include natural framing, backlighting, bokeh etc. A black cloth background can also be used in this session to isolate the faces of the Veddas and capture their facial features.



PHOTOGRAPHY HIGHLIGHTS

Tea Pluckers On Tea Field In Dambethenna (An Organized)

The majority of Sri Lankan tea pluckers and tea workers are ethnically Indian Tamils, a people who were transported by the British to work on the plantations in 1860s. This is an organized photo session hiring a few tea pluckers in a tea field in a rural high mountain area, with the possibility of requesting them to pose for photos that showcase the traditional tea plucking hand movements. The intention of photography in this session is to highlight the traditional tea plucking methods used to process Ceylon tea, their colorful traditional cloths and their beautiful facial expressions. Fundamental photography techniques to consider in this session include natural framing, backlighting, motion and movement, and bokeh etc.



PHOTOGRAPHY HIGHLIGHTS

Rural Tamil Village In Dambethenna (A Candid)

There is a stark contrast in living conditions in these Tamil rural villages compared to the rest of the country, where many of the basic facilities that are granted are either of poor quality or missing altogether. This is a candid photo session walking around the village and capturing the environment and the people who live there. The intention of photography in this session is to showcase the Tamil tea workers' underprivileged lifestyle, the threadbare clothes they wear, and the colorful slums they inhabit. Fundamental photography techniques to consider in this session include natural framing, backlighting and bokeh, etc. A black cloth background can also be used in this session to isolate the faces of the villagers and capture their facial features.



PHOTOGRAPHY HIGHLIGHTS

Pettah Market In Colombo (A Candid)

Pettah is one of the biggest and most functional market spaces in Sri Lanka. It's filled with huge trucks and porters carrying loads on their shoulders, with onions, potatoes, and spices everywhere. This is a candid photo session capturing the market's vibrant atmosphere, focusing on the actions of hard workers and the emotions reflected in their close-up faces. The intention of photography in this session is to tell a story through a series of images that reveal the harsh reality of their labor. Fundamental photography techniques to consider in this session include natural framing, motion and movement, backlighting, bokeh, panning, long exposure, etc.



SIGHTSEEING HIGHLIGHTS

Seema Malakaya Temple In Colombo (A Sightseeing)

One of Colombo's most photographed sights is on an island on the east side of the South Beira Lake. Standing tall along the banks of Beira Lake, Seema Malaka forms a part of the southern region of the Colombo City of Sri Lanka. The temple is constructed on three platforms over water, which are connected to the mainland and with each other by pontoon bridges. All three platforms have numerous seated Buddha statues displaying different mudras. Moreover, you can also see the impressive skyscrapers surrounding the area, making it a perfect place to click some memorable photos.



SIGHTSEEING HIGHLIGHTS

Sigiriya Rock Fortress In Sigiriya (Sightseeing)

Sigiriya is an ancient rock fortress and it is a site of historical and archaeological significance that is dominated by a massive column of granite rock approximately 180m high. The fortress complex includes remnants of a ruined palace, surrounded by an extensive network of fortifications, vast gardens, ponds, canals, alleys, and fountains. Halfway up the Sigiriya rock an open-air spiral stairway leads to a long, sheltered gallery in the sheer rock face. The paintings of the buxom, wasp-waisted women are popularly believed to represent King Kasyapa's concubines.



SIGHTSEEING HIGHLIGHTS

Dambulla Cave Temple In Dambulla (Sightseeing)

Dambulla is a world heritage site in Sri Lanka, situated in the central part of the country. This temple complex dates back to the first century BCE. Dambulla is the largest and best preserved cave temple complex in Sri Lanka. The temple is composed of five caves of varying sizes and magnificence. Five separate caves contain about 150 absolutely stunning Buddha statues and paintings, some of Sri Lanka's most important and evocative religious art. Buddha images were first created here over 2000 years ago, and over the centuries subsequent kings added to and embellished the cave art.



SIGHTSEEING HIGHLIGHTS

Scenic Train Journey From Haputale To Nanu Oya (Sightseeing)

This is a scenic train ride through the beautiful mountains of tropical Sri Lanka. The views on both sides of the rail are breathtaking. The train winds through the mountains overlooking farms and villages and of course vast tea plantations while scenery changes throughout the trip. Being in 3rd class you will meet a lot of locals and most will enjoy having a chat with you. Hanging out of the train gives you the best views and is an awesome feeling but be careful not to leave your limbs out of the train at the wrong time as there are trees and tunnels that come close to the train.



SIGHTSEEING HIGHLIGHTS

Damro Tea Factory In Labookellie (A Sightseeing)

At the factory visitors can learn everything about Ceylon tea, while witnessing the step-by-step process of the manufacturing process. The visitors are taken on a guided tour of the factory and the process of how tea is manufactured, graded and packed for export is explained and get an understanding of why certain teas taste as they do. The tea shop within the factory premises makes for a great buy of factory fresh and various grades to choose from.

