

## 1: Sri Lanka - Travel Guide and Latest News | TravelPulse | TravelPulse

*Sri Lanka Travel Guide: 14 Important Tips to Know for Your Visit Travel Tip #1: Don't drink the water - You shouldn't really drink the water in Sri Lanka, so bring a reusable water bottle with a purifier.*

Here are ten tips and tricks to help first-time visitors. Prepare to go slow Although infrastructure is improving and transport options are plentiful, getting around this modestly sized country, with its tightly winding roads and engine-testing inclines, might feel a little trying at times. The Hill Country is particularly notorious for eating away time – whether travelling by bus, tuk tuk or train, expect to inch from one tea plantation to the next at speeds of around miles per hour. For those with little time or deep pockets, taking a seaplane or hiring a car and driver are good alternatives. Go to relax, not to rave Outside of Colombo , and a few beach resorts, hostels with dorm rooms tend to be thin on the ground. As an emerging honeymoon hotspot, Sri Lanka also attracts a lot of couples. International names such as Aman have already set up shop on the island, and Shangri-La has two new hotels scheduled to open soon. Uga Escapes and Resplendent Ceylon are just two examples of burgeoning local brands that offer more than just copy-and-paste properties. A Tamil Tiger stronghold, it was one of the last areas on the island to reopen to tourists, and has yet to succumb to the same wave of hotels, resorts and other developments – or to receive the same flurry of foreign visitors. However, knowing where and when to find the good stuff may prove a harder task than you anticipated. Rice and curry is a lunchtime affair, while kottu rotti chopped flatbread stir-fried with eggs and vegetables is only available in the evening. Those familiar with Asia will be surprised at the lack of street food stalls; instead, some of the best food can be found in the kitchens of small guesthouses. Consider Colombo With jazz clubs, rooftop bars, boutique stores and internationally acclaimed restaurants, Colombo can no longer be considered a mere gateway city. And though there are a number of sights to see, the capital is also a great place to simply settle in and get a sense of what local life is like. Watch families fly kites on Galle Face Green at sunset; cheer for the national cricket team at the R Premadasa Stadium, or observe grandmothers swathed in vivid saris bargain with stallholders at Pettah Market. Plan around the seasons While the monsoon rains might not dampen your enthusiasm for exploring bear in mind that experiences can vary wildly depending on the season. Cycling holidays are also becoming increasingly popular with a number of international tour operators offering specialist tours. Make the most of your money By western standards Sri Lanka is still a cheap destination, but prices are rising quickly: In the corner shops of smaller cities simply check the packaging, which has the price printed next to the letters "Rs. The pace of life in Sri Lanka feels much less frantic than that of its neighbour, which makes it ideal for those intrigued, yet intimidated, by India. Few locals bat an eyelid at western visitors and while covering up is always appreciated and necessary at places of worship , wearing shorts and vests is unlikely to attract much attention.

### 2: Sri Lanka: 1 Month Itinerary And Travel Guide – Phenomenal Globe

*Sri Lanka (Hildebrand's Travel Guide) on [www.enganchecubano.com](http://www.enganchecubano.com) \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers.*

May 24, Sri Lanka: Sri Lanka has beautiful beaches, green mountains, even greener tea plantations, ancient and impressive Buddhist temples, colorful and detailed Hindu temples and much more. And all that on an island 4 times smaller than the U. My other Sri Lanka posts can be found here: In this post I will provide as much detail as I can about how we got from A to B. Luckily the owner of our accommodation, Erandi Holiday Home, picked us up with his tuktuk and quickly drove us to his place. How to get from Negombo to Colombo: We did 2 days of sightseeing in Colombo: We had it for breakfast and it was very tasty indeed! Also, the collection on display was limited, probably also because of the renovation. Entrance fee was rupees per person. I especially liked the Clock Tower and the beautifully renovated Dutch Hospital. Where to stay in Colombo: We stayed at Siebel Serviced Apartments for 2 nights for more details and directions to this hotel, check my Sri Lanka accommodation post. How to get from Colombo to Galle: We visited the Virgin White Tea estate Handunugoda, drove through green fields and to the villages Hikaduwa and Unawatuna. Where to stay in Galle: We stayed at The One Apartment for 2 nights. More details in my Sri Lanka accommodation guide. How to get from Galle to Weligama: We did get to practice standing up and even caught a couple of very shallow waves! Nevertheless, it was a nice place to spend an afternoon. We found a beach bar with lounge chairs, perfect for a drink and to watch the sunset. Where to stay in Weligama: We stayed at Naomi River View Villa for 3 nights. How to get from Weligama to Talalla: I kept an eye on Google maps offline, use GPS function to check where to get off the bus for Talalla. We stayed at Seaview Resort for 1 night. How to get from Talalla to Udawalawe Junction: I had never been on a safari before and it was amazing! First we witnessed a beautiful sunrise and once the sun was up we saw lots of animals: Also be sure to bring some water and food. Where to stay in Udawalawe Junction: We stayed at A to Z Family Guest Udawalawe for 1 night and also booked our safari there rupees per person. How to get from Udawalawe Junction to Ella: The total loop took us around 2 hours and 45 minutes. The return hike took us 3 hours and 15 minutes. Where to stay in Ella: How to get from Ella to Haputale: The easiest way is to go directly from Ella to Haputale by train. Needless to say we stayed on the train until we reached Haputale?. We stayed in Haputale for 2 days and did some more hiking. Where to stay in Haputale: We stayed at Bawa Guesthouse for 2 nights. How to get from Haputale to Nuwara Eliya: As there is no train to Nuwara Eliya we had to change to a bus at Nanu Oya station. We got out at the T-junction at Gregory Lake and walked to our accommodation. Where to stay in Nuwara Eliya: How to get from Nuwara Eliya to Kandy: A little uphill we found a nice viewpoint overlooking Kandi city center. Where to stay in Kandy: We stayed at the Travellers Home for 2 nights. How to get from Kandy to Sigiriya: We even saw a crocodile, very cool! How to get from Sigiriya to Anuradhapura: However, this colorful statue in the lesser known Isurumuni Viharaya temple was my favorite! Where to stay in Anuradhapura: How to get from Anuradhapura to Jaffna: We rented a scooter and drove around roads less traveled on the beautiful islands Velanai and Karainagar. The roads are peaceful now, but this area suffered severely from the Sri Lankan civil war which ended only in May –! Where to stay in Jaffna: Luckily we could change to Hotel Blue Whale the next day. How to get from Jaffna to Kalpitiya: And to do some more exploring of the Kalpitiya peninsula! On our last day we watched the most amazing sunset –! A perfect way to say goodbye to beautiful Sri Lanka! Where to stay in Kalpitiya: We had a really great time in Sri Lanka, like I said at the start of this post: We covered a lot of ground in 1 month, but there is still much more to see. Perhaps another time –! Anyway, below you can download a table with the transport information and a table with the activities listed in this itinerary. If you have less time available to explore Sri Lanka, also check out this 2-week itinerary by my friend Sarah! Enjoy your trip to Sri Lanka! Looking for more travel planning resources? Also check out these posts!

### 3: travel-sri-lanka-guide-destinations - Travel Sri Lanka Guide

*Explore Sri Lanka with The Rough Guide to Sri Lanka. Compare flights, find tours, book hostels and hotels for your trip, and don't forget to purchase travel insurance before you go.*

What you do find is a poor excuse for Western food that is overpriced and often a chain. Stick to the local food! Just eat it all! More about foodâ€” Food, besides being crazy good, is also really cheap in Sri Lanka! Expect your nights to be tame. Hire the Tuk-tuksâ€” You can hire drivers cheaply. Any tuk-tuk driver will let you hire them for the day. Moreover, tuk-tuk drivers are pretty honest, except in Colombo, where they will try to scam and overcharge you. Take the airport bus â€” There is a train to the airport you can take from Colombo Fort. Train travel, while often slower, are the cheapest way to get around. Book your train in advance: Show up early at Sigiriya: If you are visiting Sigiriya, get there when it opens at 8am to avoid huge lines and crowds at the site. Skip the ticket line at Anuradhapura: I also noticed Western tourists were the only ones ever asked to show a ticket at the museum. Enter the site without paying by using the tiny road just southeast of the museum. Bring flip-flops to temples: Day trip to Galle: Galle is only worth a day trip. There is not much to do there at all. There are a lot of cheap accommodation throughout the country. How Much Does it Cost? Sri Lanka is a cheap country to visit. Here is a list of prices to help you get an idea of costs in Sri Lanka: Everywhere â€” if you have the time! Most travelers focus on the southern half of the country, with its hiking and beach towns. After decades of war, the north has a legacy of destruction that has yet to go away. Though I originally had planned to explore only the south due to my limited time there, I was offered the opportunity to talk to a member of Parliament in Jaffna up north and learn about the Tamil war, so I rearranged my route thus: Seeing the north gave me an added perspective on a portion of the country without hordes of other tourists. In fact, in my time up north, I saw only four Westerners. And though Sri Lanka may look like a small island, there is a lot to see and do there! More than I imagined. Anuradhapura and Sigiriya both have amazing ancient ruins. Kandy is filled with hiking treks, a big Buddhist temple, and a butterfly garden. Nuwara Eliya is known for its hiking, Tissa is the gateway to Yala National Park which has elephants and leopards , and Galle is a beautiful old Dutch fort town. Even though I covered a lot of ground in my two weeks, I still missed many places, including Ella more hiking , Arugam Bay beaches , and most of the southern coast more beaches and nightlife. I raced through the country and crammed too much into such a short period of time. Where should YOU go? Unless you have more time, then the world is your oyster! For example, Tissa is the gateway to Yala National Park. Tour operators run most tours in the early morning a higher chance of seeing animals so if you took one of those tours, you could be on a bus moving on to your next destination by lunch time. The same could with Jaffna. Tick a few boxes and then move on. Galle is more a day trip from a nearby beach town than a place to spend a few days. There was so little to do there I just went back to Colombo instead of staying the night. Sigiriya and Dambulla can be done in two nights though I added an extra night because I liked the family I was staying with. Nuwara Eliya, Ella, Kandy, Arugam Bay, Trincomalee â€” those places have more activities and are worth spending a longer time in.

### 4: Sri Lanka Travel Guide and Travel Information | World Travel Guide

*Alex and Marko the Vagabrothers share their top travel tips for Sri Lanka in this epic travel guide, the first in a seven video vlog series that shows you the absolute best of Sri Lanka. From Colombo to Sigiriya, from Mirissa to Ella and Kandy to Nuwara Eliya.*

Colombo continued to grow under the Dutch and British and today shows the marked influence of all those cultures. The Fort Originally a fort during the Portuguese and Dutch periods but now simply the commercial center of the country and the site of most major offices. The Presidential Secretariat, previously the parliament house, the Grand Oriental Hotel, built in the mid 19th century, are several places of tourist interest near the fort area. Clock tower cum lighthouse It is a very rare sight indeed because light house in the middle of the city center. Importance in the Colombo fort is the lighthouse with clock tower. For nearly years it performed the dual task being a deacon to ships in Indian Ocean whilst keeping time Old dutch hospital Built as a hospital by the Dutch, it has been used for several different purposes, over the years. It is believed to have existed since It is now a heritage building and a shopping and dining precinct. The world trade center twin towers are also visible. World famous sea food restaurant for crabs lovers, pub, clothing stores, spas, tea shop take space of this Dutch building. Gangaramaya simamalakaya This Buddhist temple includes several imposing buildings and is situated not far from the placid waters of Beira Lake on a plot of land that was originally a small hermitage on a piece of marshy land. Most notable for tourists is the architecture of the Simamalaka Shrine, which was built with donations from a Muslim sponsor to the design of Geoffrey Bawa. Nelum Pokuna is shaped as a stylized eight-petalled lotus flower. The theatre is equipped with ultra modern facilities such as an auditorium with 1, seats, a library, and training facilities. The building features two permanent theatres—the main auditorium and an open-air theatre. It has the ability to convert the front steps into an additional open-air theatre. Viharamahadevi Park Viharamahadevi Park is the principle open space in Colombo. Park has ample walking area jogging area and children play ground. It also caters to the hungry, with food court and sitting decks to spend leisure. Most of the artists from the University of Aesthetic Studies. The display is only on Saturday and Sunday. Galle face The mile long promenade which borders on the fort on the south is the largest open air stretch in the city affording a beautiful view of the sunset. There are over 19 sectors of handicrafts here, such as: Craft Workshops are available and the craftsmen take time to explain and how off their talents while at work. Sri Lankan traditional sweet stalls are also there to feel the taste while watching workshops. Vihara has very fascinating wall and ceiling paintings by famous artist Solius Mendis. Diyawanna water park Diyawanna Water Park is rich with green landscapes and ideal spot to hang out and relax. The wonderful breeze across the waters will keep a very fresh and cheerful environment for ample walking area jogging area. It caters food court and sitting decks to spend leisure.

### 5: Sri Lanka Travel Guide | Best Tips For Your Trip | Nomadic Matt

*Galle Full-Day Tour. Meet your guide at your Colombo or Negombo hotel at 7am for a hour day tour of Galle, Sri Lanka. Begin at the Kosgoda Turtle Hatchery, home to seven species of marine turtles and other wild sea life.*

Beer from local stores: Due to the fact that Sri Lanka is located near the equator, the general climate is warm. However, once you go up to the highlights like Nuwara Eliya Ella or Ella, the climate begins cooling down a bit so taking a light rain jacket with you is definitely advisable. During my last trip there, I had a small hand-carry sized luggage with a few quick-dry t-shirts, one pair of trekking pants, some leggings, and some loose elephant pants. I would also recommend bringing a light sarong to take with you in case you see any temples or places of worship that you would like to visit. For a more detailed account of what to bring, check out our Asia Packing list guide. This epic day tuk-tuk challenge organized by the guys over at Large Minority happens twice a year and has routes taking you through the North and the South. Not only do you have to navigate the entire thing using just maps, you also have to complete a few challenges along the way. Go on a Safari Another highlight and must-do in Sri Lanka is to go on a safari. During our time there, we went on an incredible glamping safari and had an incredible time. Our two game drives through the park allowed us to spot wild elephants, a lot of deer, monkeys, and last but not the least, a fairly large female leopard which was obviously, the highlight of our time there! Go on a Scenic Train Ride Hands down, one of the best things to do in Sri Lanka and the cheapest too is to go on a scenic train ride. We did the journey between Nuwara Eliya Ella to Ella and had the time of our lives. Imagine sitting by the train door as you see endless tea plantation hills, gorgeous mountaintops, and valleys all around you. Relax by the Beach With a coastline spread throughout the country, Sri Lanka has many seaside beach towns to relax in. From the sandy shores of Unawatuna, Bentota, Induruwa, Arugam Bay, Trincomalee, to Marissa, there is no shortage of places to relax and unwind. See Historic Sights and Monuments Whether you decide to take a trip down the cultural triangle, or simply travel around the country in search of ancient sights and monuments, Sri Lanka is an ideal place to go to. From the ancient city and ruins of Sigiriya, the Dambulla Cave Temple, or the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic in Kandy, there are heaps of history and culture waiting to be discovered. However, unlike the typical Indian curries, Sri Lanka offers its own rendition of this popular food staple. From samosas to kottu, Sri Lankan food was a cuisine that I pleasantly enjoyed. Sri Lankan Fish Curry: Instead, it has a mild sour taste making it an unusual yet delicious meal. When you order this, it usually is served with heaps of other vegetable side dishes and rice. Similar to pancake batter, Sri Lankans ladle it to a wok and swirl it around, making it either a sweet or savory dish. You can order it plain, or with an egg in the middle. The egg hoppers are then served with a spicy sambal sauce to add flavor and is usually eaten with a side of daal curry. Pol Roti and Daal: Made from coconut flour, pol roti is usually served as a side snack all times of the day and can be eaten with almost anything. For breakfast, it is served with a small plate of daal as a dipping sauce or in more Western places, with some jam and butter. For lunch or dinner, it is served with some sambal, dhal, or other types of curry dishes. It is absolutely delicious and is one of my favorite dishes in Sri Lanka. Places to Stay in Sri Lanka Everywhere you go in Sri Lanka, you will easily be able to find loads of options when it comes to accommodations. From fancy hotels in Negombo to homestays in small towns, finding a place to stay in fairly easy. We recommend checking sites like Booking.

### 6: Bentota Travel Guide | Sri Lanka Round Tour Packages

*Sri Lanka Travel Guide. There's something tantalising about Sri Lanka, whether it's from the unmistakable scent of spices in the air, the faint vestige of old-fashioned sophistication, or the pacifying sway of its green-carpeted land and beautiful beaches.*

Colombo – the commercial capital of Sri Lanka Kandy – the spiritual heart of the country, home to a tooth of the Buddha Nuwara Eliya – has the coolest climate in Sri Lanka and mountains covered with Tea plants Anuradhapura – ruins of ancient capitals partially restored Polonnaruwa – ruins of ancient capitals partially restored Batticaloa – the main town in eastern region- Called land of singing fish. Jaffna – the northern Capital of Sri Lanka Galle – a home for a Dutch fort, and a gathering point for travelers from the nearby beach resort villages Ratnapura – City Of Gems, nothing much for tourists Other destinations[ edit ] Negombo - Dutch and Portuguese colonial remains Kalpitiya - Peninsula with isolated remote beaches on the west coast. Wilpattu National Park - The largest national park in Sri Lanka. Known for natural lakes , wildlife including a wide variety of birds Sigiriya - The right spot to climb the beautiful Sigiriya rock. Kitulgala - Pristine wet zone rain forest, white water rafting for adventure seekers- 4 hours from Colombo Bentota - Popular beach resort town on the south west coast, with one of the best beaches in Sri Lanka Balapitiya - Balapitiya is a coastal town, in south west Sri Lanka. It is located in the Southern Province in Sri Lanka. Visit now, before concrete hotels start to appear. Mirissa - Small beach village on the south coast close to Matara with two good surfing spots Dikwella - Beach with crystal clear waters, nearby Hiriketiya Bay is popular with surfers. Dickoya forms Hatton-Dickoya urban council with Hatton. Trincomalee - Beaches along the east coast like Nilaveli, Kuchchaveli, Uppuveli. Pasikuda - excellent beaches along East Coast for swimming, snorkel and dive Arugam Bay - Southeast coast beach town with several top surfing spots for summer season Get in[ edit ] Visitors to Sri Lanka having tattoo of Buddha or other tattoos of religious significance may be arrested and deported: There are no issues with non-religious tattoos. Smoking in public places is prohibited including inside buses and trains. Violators can be prosecuted. Photographing with your back to statues of the Buddha or posing in an inappropriate manner next to them are prohibited. Violators will be booked. Visa rules[ edit ] Nationals of the Maldives , Seychelles and Singapore may obtain a free visa on arrival. Maldivian and Singaporean nationals may enter for 30 days extendable up to , whilst Seychellois nationals may enter for 60 days but no more than 90 days per calendar year. All other nationals not specified above may obtain a visa on arrival, provided that they have completed the electronic travel authorization ETA procedure either prior to travel or on arrival in Sri Lanka. This electronic authorization is valid for 3 months, starting from the day it has been approved. It allows for two entries, which means you can enter the country twice during the 30 days entry allowing for a break in e. A visitor wishing to stay more than 30 days in Sri Lanka may apply for an extension. The short visit visa may be extended up to 90 days from the date of arrival at the first instance and further 90 days at the second instance. However, the Department maintains a no refund policy on your visa application fees. It is highly recommended that you complete your ETA prior to travel, partially to avoid the queues but also as a safeguard. If a referral notice is given if you complete your ETA on arrival in Sri Lanka, you will be deported. As of February , immigration authorities at Colombo airport are very demanding with respect to the accuracy of the passport number on your electronic travel authorisation obtained online. A single digit mistake is taken as a reason to force you to buy a new visa and refer you to some obscure government office in Colombo for refunds of your online payments. Be careful about the digit 1 one vs. The number should exactly match the machine-readable section of your passport, and not anything else for example, Russian passports have a non-alphanumeric number sign that should be completely excluded. Extensions can be made at the Department of Immigration Hotline: A visa extension gives you a full three months in the country and you can apply for your extension almost as soon as you arrive the day visa given upon entry is included in the three months. A further three-month extension is possible, but you must again pay the extension fee plus another LKR10, Extensions beyond this are at the discretion of the department, and incur a LKR15, fee plus the extension fee. See above for fees for the first day extension. The fee varies greatly. Beat

the Colombo gridlock which starts around 7: For directions just ask for "Passport Office". You can download the visa-extension form from the website you got your ETA or get one on arrival. Go to the 3rd-floor office. It is open from Keep this throughout the process. Interviews commence at Someone comes out periodically and calls the next token numbers to be processed. The interviewer will take your documents. Show your token and get your documents back. Take these to the payment counter opposite, pay fee hand over documents and get fee receipt. Once again wait for your number to show on the same screen as before. Then you wait 30 minutes or so while your passport works its way through the system and is returned to you. Check the visa is correct. You will need your passport, and maybe onward ticket a credit card or foreign exchange receipts. It takes at least five days to process a tourist visa, but only one day if you are a foreign resident in Sri Lanka. Lines tend to be very long. The airline operates brand new Dreamliner wide body aircraft on these routes. Ukraine International Airlines now has a flight from Kyiv to Colombo three times per week and provides convenient connection with many European cities. Emirates Airlines connects to Colombo with several flights daily from Dubai and Singapore to Colombo. The airline operates ER wide body aircraft on these routes. Etihad Airways connects Abu Dhabi with Colombo. This flight is also codeshared with other airlines from Etihad group eg. Other options are Jet Airways or its offshoot Jetlite. Qatar Airways has 3 daily non-stop flights from Doha to Colombo. This opens up cheap flight for visitors from South East Asia as well as those who are visiting South Asia and then heading to South-East Asia or vice-versa. Singapore Airlines flies daily between Colombo and Singapore. Turkish Airlines offers direct flight from Istanbul to Colombo. From the American West Coast, the distance is almost half the globe. In many cases, this may be the fastest route, but check if an Indian transit visa is required. Emirates Airlines offer non-stop service to Colombo two to three times daily from Dubai. By ship[ edit ] The Tuticorin - Colombo passenger ferry service, suspended for years due to the civil war, commenced services in June , but this service is currently suspended. The Scotia Prince ran twice a week until November when the ferry was discontinued indefinitely. Cruise ship[ edit ] Sri Lanka has been included in its destinations list for by American cruise operator Zegrahm Expeditions [20]. The line plans four voyages that stop in Sri Lanka in Large passenger ships recently docked in Trincomalee and Hambantota harbors. Get around[ edit ] Driving in Sri lanka requires great skill and knowledge of local driving attitudes. If you are not an expert driver who can negotiate dense traffic do not try driving. Also known as Tuk-Tuks from the noise of their horns. These operate in a manner similar to taxis, and in many situations are a convenient and highly cost-efficient way to get around. Safety is a concern however, as none of them have seat belts and they are open to the sides. Three-wheelers are ubiquitous in Sri Lanka. You probably have not experienced everything Sri Lanka has to offer until you travel in one. Some are metered and some are not. If available then always prefer the metered and make sure they turn the meter on. This trip will cost you much less than an agreed price. If metered are not available specially in countryside or smaller places then agree for a total price which will be a few times more than normal if you are a tourist. Public transport is cheaper by far, and most three-wheel drivers tend to over-charge foreigners. The best price you can get is about LKR per km for short journeys and about LKR for long journeys more than 15km. If you do come across a metered Tri-Shaw make sure the meter is switched on. Some travellers report that they have been able to strike a deal directly with local owners for the use of their vehicle. This is not recommended, however, due to licensing and insurance concerns. Tuk Tuks can be collected from Mount Lavinia, Colombo, or delivered nationwide. Rentals include comprehensive insurance, 24 hour support and a number of other extras to make your trip safe and hassle-free. By car[ edit ] Rented cars usually turn out cheaper than three-wheelers, and are less prone to road accidents--and are recommended by most hotels. Rented cars often come with their own drivers. Often the automobile itself is free, whereas the driver will charge a fee for his services. You can book good cars from most of the Colombo hotel reception counters or from special counters located next to it. They will provide hotel Logo marked cars for rental with their own drivers. They are good for airport drops or moving within the city. Check the price first before you book it. First of all you need to have your international licence from your own country with you and also you must get it validated in Sri Lanka licencing centre. You may not drive in Sri Lanka without it!

### 7: Sri Lanka | Your Quick Handy Travel Guide – HotelBids

*Visit Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka has seduced travellers for centuries. Marco Polo described it as the finest island of its size in the world, while successive waves of Indian, Arab and European traders and adventurers flocked to its palm-fringed shores, attracted by reports of rare spices, precious stones and magnificent elephants.*

Summary - addition of information on a general alert issued by the Centre for Disaster Management over the onset of the South Western Monsoon You need a visa to enter Sri Lanka. You can get a short stay visa online. Most visits to Sri Lanka are trouble-free. However, you should be aware of the risk of sexual assault, spiked drinks, road accidents, drowning due to dangerous tides and credit card fraud. Dengue fever occurs throughout the country. Sri Lanka can be affected by severe weather such as like tropical cyclones and monsoon rains. A general alert has been issued by the Centre for Disaster Management over the onset of the South Western Monsoon check local advice before setting out. The Overseas Business Risk service offers information and advice for British companies operating overseas on how to manage political, economic, and business security-related risks. Attacks could be indiscriminate, including in places visited by foreigners. In the State of Emergency and the Emergency Regulations were lifted, but there remains a heightened level of security in some parts of the country. You should be vigilant. Avoid military areas and High Security Zones. Always carry formal photographic identification with you. Stop and show your ID when asked to do so. You should be vigilant at this time. Find out more about the global threat from terrorism , how to minimise your risk and what to do in the event of a terrorist attack. Safety and security Crime Violent crimes against foreigners are infrequent, although there have been an increasing number of reports of sexual offences including on minors. When travelling around Sri Lanka, you should make arrangements through reputable travel companies and take care. Western women continue to report incidents of verbal and physical harassment by groups of men. Such harassment- ranging from sexually suggestive or lewd comments to physical advances and sexual assaults - can occur any time or anywhere, but most frequently has taken place in crowded areas such as market places, railway stations, buses, public streets and sporting events. There has been an increase in sexual attacks against females in tourist areas. There have been reports of drinks being spiked with drugs in bars and restaurants in southern beach resorts. Women should take particular care when travelling alone or in small groups, and carry a personal alarm. Credit card fraud is a risk for visitors. Use cash wherever possible and only use ATMs attached to banks or major hotels. It may be possible to avoid this by informing your bank in advance of your intended travel arrangements. There are plenty of money-changers in tourist areas if you want to change cash. There have been reports of thefts from hotels and guesthouses. You should take precautions to safeguard your valuables, especially passports and money. Organised and armed gangs are known to operate in Sri Lanka and have been responsible for targeted kidnappings and violence. While there is no evidence to suggest that British nationals are at particular risk, gangs have been known to operate in tourist areas. A British national was killed during a violent attack by a gang in a tourist resort in December The Sri Lankan justice system can be very slow. Local travel - North Foreign passport holders planning to travel to the north no longer need approval from the Ministry of Defence. Military activities are ongoing. You should obey orders from the security forces and signs warning of the danger from land-mines. Foreign media crews will still need prior permission to travel to the Northern Province. Travellers to the north may also encounter further restrictions, including around military establishments and areas where demining operations continue. Local travel - Jaffna Peninsula There is free movement everywhere outside High Security Zones with fewer checkpoints around the Peninsula. Operations to clear mines continue, particularly in the heavily mined area towards Elephant Pass. Local travel - Kilinochchi, Mullaittivu, Mannar and Vavuniya There is a continued heavy military presence. There was severe war damage to property throughout the northern region so accommodation options and infrastructure are limited. Some areas were heavily mined and operations to clear minefields continue. There are signs warning of mined areas and you should follow any local advice. Local travel - East Demining and weapons and ordnance clearance operations may still be ongoing in parts of the East. There are several areas, primarily former military and police locations that continue to be marked as

minefields. Always obey orders from the security forces and look out for signs warning of landmines.

**Swimming** Many beaches in Sri Lanka have dangerous surf or rip tides at certain times of the year. Always take local advice before entering the sea. A number of foreign nationals drown every year. You can obtain a recognition permit at the AA in Colombo. A British driving licence on its own will not suffice. Many roads, particularly outside the major towns are in a serious state of disrepair. Driving is erratic and there are frequent road accidents, particularly at night. Pedestrians and animals often appear in the road without warning. Riding a motorbike is particularly dangerous. If you have a collision, stay at the site of the accident with your vehicle as long as it is safe to do so. If it is not safe or if you feel threatened, report to the local police station. Security checkpoints and roadblocks still occur in parts of the country. Take care when passing through them, and always obey the instructions of the police or army on duty. Roads around Government and military sites in Colombo are regularly closed for security reasons.

**e. Buses** are notorious for driving fast and rarely giving way. They are often poorly maintained. A number of serious bus accidents have occurred in recent years. Motorised rickshaws tuk-tuks are available for hire in towns and villages. Agree a price before you set off or look for one with a working meter. Most travellers report no difficulties, although there have been reports of harassment, particularly of lone female travellers at night. Change to a different rickshaw if you have any concerns about the driver or standard of driving.

**Rail travel** There have been a number of fatal accidents when visitors have hung out of the open doorways or windows of trains. You should remember that there is a very real risk of death or serious injury if you do not stay within the train carriage while the train is not stopped at a station. Take care of your possessions at all times.

**Sea travel** Entry into Sri Lankan waters, at any point, requires prior permission. You should avoid the coastline and adjacent territorial sea of the Trincomalee, Mullaittivu, Jaffna, Kilinochchi and Mannar administrative districts in the north and east, which have been declared restricted zones by the Sri Lankan authorities. While there have been no successful piracy attacks since May off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden, the threat of piracy related activity and armed robbery in the Gulf of Aden and Indian Ocean remains significant. Reports of attacks on local fishing dhows in the area around the Gulf of Aden and Horn of Africa continue. The combined threat assessment of the international Naval Counter Piracy Forces remains that all sailing yachts under their own passage should remain out of the designated High Risk Area or face the risk of being hijacked and held hostage for ransom. For more information and advice, see our Piracy and armed robbery at sea page.

**Wildlife** You should be aware that some wildlife can be dangerous. If in doubt follow advice from authorised guides or local authorities. Wild elephants and crocodiles in particular are generally treated with respect and caution by Sri Lankans, for good reason, as both will attack humans on occasion. Though not common in populated areas, venomous insects and snakes are found in many parts of the country. Feral dogs are common and sometimes carry rabies.

**Political situation** Political rallies and electoral periods in Sri Lanka have occasionally turned violent. You should avoid any political gathering or rally and be wary of spontaneous large gatherings. Carry a form of official photographic identification with you at all times. You should follow local news closely in case a curfew or other restrictions are announced. Since the end of the military conflict in May, there has been an increase in nationalism including at times anti-western rhetoric. In the past, there have been protests against the British High Commission and other diplomatic premises. Although no protests have so far been directed at the British community more generally, you should be vigilant and avoid demonstrations. Avoid military bases and buildings, which were the most frequent target of attacks and which now maintain high security in many districts in the north and east.

**Local laws and customs** On 9 November, the Sri Lankan government published a revised list of organisations and individuals proscribed under Sri Lankan law. There are severe penalties for all drug offences and crimes related to the abuse of children. In some circumstances you can be held without charge indefinitely. Convicted offenders may face a lengthy jail sentence. You must carry a form of official photographic identification with you at all times otherwise you may be detained. If you are detained, you should ask the authorities to contact the British High Commission. Same-sex relations are illegal but the FCO is not aware of any prosecutions. See our information and advice page for the LGBT community before you travel. Nude or topless sunbathing is generally not allowed.

### 8: 10 Travel Tips For First-Time Visitors To Sri Lanka | Rough Guides

*We guide Sri Lanka Travel Destinations, News, Map, Blog, Hotels, Resorts, Tours, Vacations, Events, and more for a perfect travel experience! Created by [www.enganchecubano.com](http://www.enganchecubano.com) Travel Sri Lanka Guide including complete detailed information about everything you need to know about Sri Lanka traveling.*

Here are our top must-see places in Sri Lanka: The beaches on the South Coast: Unawatuna, Mirissa, and Tangalla. They are the most stunning golden soft beaches you can ever imagine! Of these three beaches, we liked Tangalla Beach the most. Maria is running at the fabulous Tangalla Beach. Galle – Wander around the beautiful and charming ancient fort city Galle that has a European vibe to it. The beautiful city Galle. A wild elephant in Yala National Park. Ella – Visit the small and sleepy mountain village Ella, surrounded by lush and green tea plantations as far as your eyes can see. Maria is enjoying the fantastic view from our hotel room in Ella. Polonnaruwa – Cycling around the ancient ruins of the old capital Polonnaruwa, was a highlight of our trip to Sri Lanka. Cycling through the ancient city of Polonnaruwa. Have a look at our suggested two week Sri Lanka itinerary for more details about where to go and how to get around the island. Hiking in the stunning mountains around Ella, some of them above 1000m, is an absolute must! Climbing the Sigiriya Lion Rock, where on top apparently the royal palace once used to be, is defiantly a must-do! The famous and stunning Sigiriya rock. Surfing – The surfing is great in Sri Lanka! Both on the west coast, south, and east coast the waves are fantastic for surfing. Dolphin Safari – Once you are in Sri Lanka, going on a dolphin watching trip is almost mandatory. Whale safari – We did not go on a whale safari because we have seen so many whales back home in Norway, but Sri Lanka is one of the best places in the world to spot large whales. We went snorkelling outside of Kalpitiya, and loved it! Eating rice and curry – The national dish rice and curry is something you get served everywhere, and it is super good! So tasty and full of flavour! The Sri Lankans know how to use spices. Tea Plantations – Walking through the tea plantations and visit a tea factory is a must-do. It makes you appreciate your next cup of delicious Sri Lankan tea. A tea picker in Ella. Train ride – Taking a train ride through the Hill Country, possibly the most beautiful train trip in the world? Off the beaten tracks It is easy to avoid the herd of tourists. If you head up North for instance to Jaffna or to the East Coast, you will not find many tourists. The lovely people The people of Sri Lanka are great! So lovely, kind and welcoming. Delicious Sri Lankan rice and curry. The perfect climate Sri Lanka has a sub-tropic climate, making it a nice warm country to visit. And many of them you have all to yourself. Wildlife and nature Even though Sri Lanka is a small island, it has a great wildlife. You can spot animals as wild elephants, crocodiles, leopards, sea turtles, whales, dolphins and lots of beautiful birds. Sea turtle at Tangalla Beach. Everything is within a short distance The best of it all, is that Sri Lanka is a small island, which makes it easy to travel around and see a lot within a short time. Increasing prices One thing that is not so good regarding a travellers budget are the increasing prices in Sri Lanka. Just a few years back, the accommodation, transport and entrance fees to sights and temples were much cheaper than today. Sri Lanka is more expensive than other Asian countries we have been to, for instance, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, Philippines, and Cambodia. Another thing is that foreigners have to pay much more than the locals to enter sites and temples in Sri Lanka. It can sometimes be frustrating having to pay many times that of the locals, but there is nothing you can do about it. Just be aware that entrance fees eat up much of your budget while traveling in Sri Lanka. The prices are increasing in Sri Lanka, although it is still an affordable country to travel in, and has still not reached European or USA prices. Yep, it feels a bit unfair sometimes. As for rooms, you can find accommodations at all price levels, from luxury boutique hotels to more backpacker-like guest houses. You will have to pay a lot more for the same standard as in Thailand. Some places we stayed, the accommodation also included food breakfast, lunch, and dinner, like the one at Kalpitiya. It all depends on what kind of standard you like; you get what you pay for. Food is still of great value, and is delicious! You can find food in all price ranges. Bare in mind, though, that when ordering rice and curry, it takes a looooooong time to make, so you will have to wait a while maybe an hour or so to get your food. Like one of the restaurant, chefs said to us: Alcohol is very cheap in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka is a small island, so traveling around is pretty easy. It is quite well-connected by buses and trains that

make for fun transport around the country. Read about the beautiful train trip we took from Ella to Kandy. Taking buses and trains are cheap, even first class on trains is quite inexpensive. Tuk-tuks and taxis are easy to find and are a quick and comfortable way to get between places, although much more expensive than bus and train. The people of Sri Lanka are genuine, friendly, kind and polite. They are very interested in foreigners, smiling and waving, and as a traveler, it is easy to get in touch with the locals. You feel welcomed by the Sri Lankan people, and it is easy to make friends. One thing about Sri Lankan is that they do this head nod or shake, which made us a little puzzled at the start. Does it mean yes, OK, or no?! It is a lot about this head shake in travel blogs and magazines, so it is apparently well-known, especially in India. Well, the head shake is also in Sri Lanka. And everyone does it, from small kids to grown-ups. I think it is an acknowledgment to what you said or of your presence. The backpackers we met in Sri Lanka were often older and more mature than the typical backpacker you meet in other Asian countries. There are more families with kids and not so many full-moon-party-year-olds as there are in for instance Thailand. Also, the Russians have started to come to Sri Lanka, mainly to the beaches in the South, like Unawatuna. We met quite a few. The 22 million people living in Sri Lanka speak different languages: There is no problem traveling around Sri Lanka speaking only English. Street signs and menus at touristy restaurants are in both Sinhala and English. The online visa is valid for 30 days from the date of arrival and can be extended for up to six months. It is quite easy to get Visa extensions for up to 90 days. Extensions are available at the Department of Immigration ; [www](http://www). The last payments are received at 3: The department sets the cost in US dollars, but you pay in rupees. You get a visa extension for three months, and you can apply for your extension almost as soon as you arrive in Sri Lanka the day visa given upon entry is included in the three months. You can extend for an additional 3 months after your first extension. So altogether you can get a maximum of six months visa to Sri Lanka. It is very easy and quick to apply for the online visa. There are either no requirements for vaccinations. The only thing you will need when entering Sri Lanka, in addition to the online visa, is at least one blank page in your passport which must be valid for at least six months from the date of entry. There are no significant health concerns or risks when traveling in Sri Lanka. The biggest risk is probably diarrhea, as in most Asian countries, but we did not have any of that during our five weeks eating anything everywhere. There is a slight risk of getting Dengue Fever and Malaria, so wear mosquito repellent and sleep under a mosquito net most guest houses have nets over the beds where there are mosquitoes. Do however bring a small medical kit. I did get a jellyfish sting on my leg in Unawatuna, which was bloody painful, so some gel to put on a jellyfish sting can be a good thing to bring to the beach. And do bring sunscreen! You can buy sun screen in Sri Lanka, but not everywhere, and they might not have the sun protection factor SPF that you want. Travel insurance might seem expensive, but it is nothing compared to what medical help can cost if you need it. We have been using World Nomads on most on our travels, and we have needed it too! Their insurance is flexible, extendable while travelling, and covers a lot of action sports and activities that other companies refuse to cover.

### 9: Sri Lanka Tourism (), Get Detailed Information on Sri Lanka Travel Guide - Tripoto

*Sri Lanka Hildebrand Travel Maps Pdf Files Download (Hildebrand's Travel Map) Map - [www.enganchecubano.com](http://www.enganchecubano.com) Sri Lanka (Hildebrand's Travel Map) on [www.enganchecubano.com](http://www.enganchecubano.com) \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. De Soysa Stadium - Wikipedia De Soysa Park Stadium (formerly known as Tyrone Fernando Stadium) is a multi-use.*

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