



**SELECTIVE  
ASIA**

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## Quote document

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**Client Name:**

Judith & Daniel

**Start Date:**

11 March 2016

**Booking Number:**

7262

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**Consultant:**

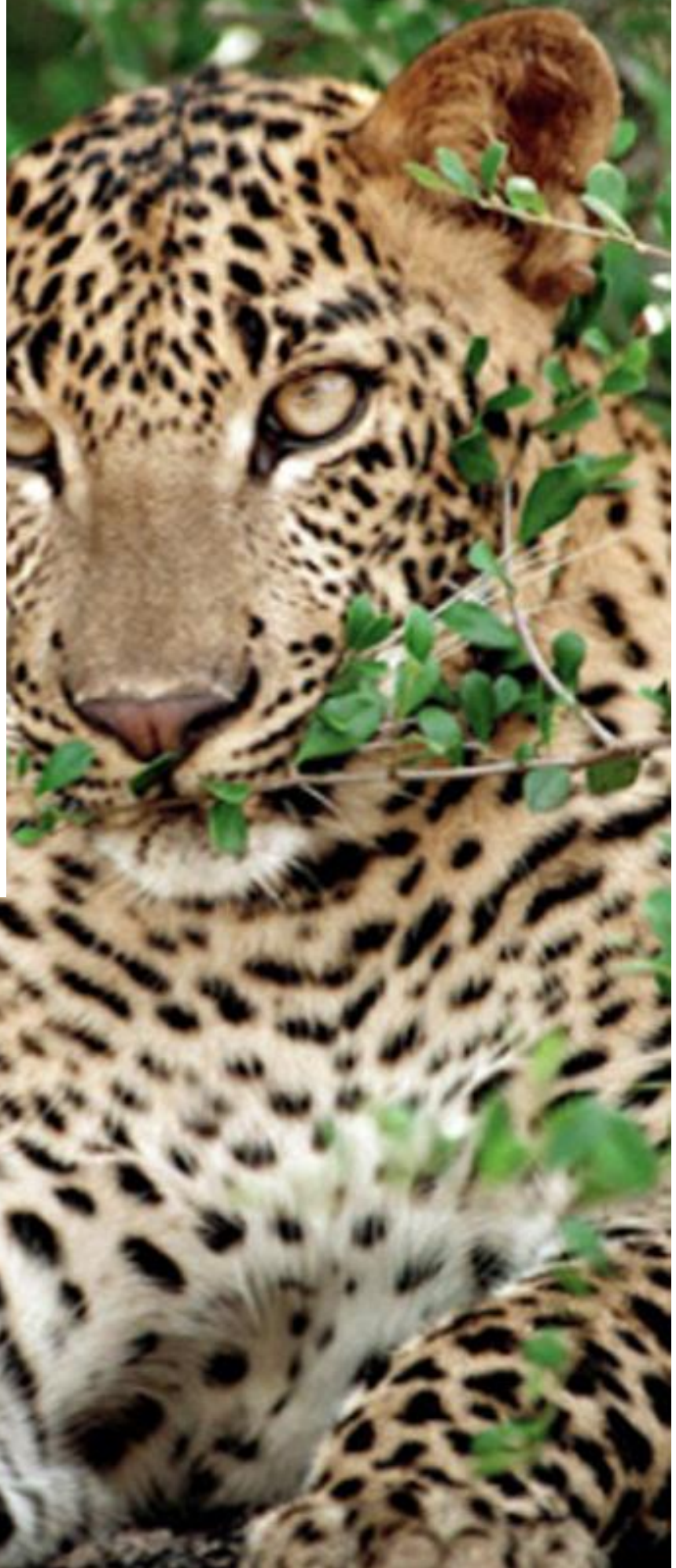
Edward Wilson

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# Sri Lanka - Land of the Lions

At Selective Asia we specialise in creating tailor-made holidays to meet your specifications. Therefore if you feel that this itinerary can be improved in any way or you would like to discuss alternative travel plans please just let us know.

## Visas

Most nationalities will require an entry visa for Sri Lanka. For further information on your visa requirements

[please click here](#)

## Climate & Festivals

For a detailed summary of local weather and festivals

[please click here](#)

## Flights and Quote

All prices can be found in the additional document entitled 'your travel quote'.

## Hotels

Full hotel details are displayed towards the foot of the detailed itinerary. I have personally inspected the vast majority of the hotels that we recommend and will be happy to discuss the pros, and any cons, of those I have recommended to you.



## Miscellaneous

You will find full details of what is and what isn't included in your holiday as well further details on Selective Asia towards the foot of this document.

## ATOL Bonded

Selective Asia is a fully licensed and bonded tour operator. We hold ATOL license #9203, issued by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). ATOL - which is short for 'Air Travel Organisers Licensing' - exists to protect you, the customer, from losing money or being stranded abroad because of the failure of a travel firm or airline. ATOL protects clients residing in the UK that are booking a travel package with the inclusion of at least one flight.



# Tailor-made Sri Lanka

## Passenger Names:

1. Mrs Judith Watson
2. Mr Daniel Finnegan

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that the names displayed above are exactly as they appear in each person's passport (no middle names required). You must advise us immediately of any errors. Names cannot be changed on airline reservations at a later date.

## Flights

*Please inform us of your flight details as soon as possible, or advise any flights you would like us to arrange for you.*

### Day 1: Friday 11 March 2016

#### Overnight

The Gateway Hotel  
Airport Garden,  
Colombo

#### arrive Colombo Airport

Upon arrival at Colombo Airport, you will be met by your guide and transferred a short distance to your hotel.

#### Transfer:

Duration 0.5hrs

### Day 2: Saturday 12 March 2016

#### Overnight

Vil Uyana, Cultural  
Triangle

#### Colombo Airport, Cultural Triangle

Morning transfer to the region known as the Cultural Triangle, home to five of Sri Lanka's seven UNESCO World Heritage sites. Upon arrival you will transfer directly to your hotel, your base for the next four nights whilst you tour the region's highlights.

Stretching from Anuradhapura at its northern point, to Polonnarawa in the east and Kandy in the south, Sri Lanka's Cultural Triangle covers approximately one thousand square miles, with the Sigiriya rock fortress and the cave temple of Dambulla sitting at its arid heart.

In addition, there are literally scores of other temples, ruins and dagobas which, despite not holding the much revered UNESCO status, are still very much worth a visit.

#### Your guide

All our guides are fully trained, highly experienced specialists, all licensed to work in the Cultural Triangle. Along with their exceptional knowledge of the region & the ancient civilisations that shaped it, Selective Asia's guides know how best to avoid the bus-loads that descend on any given site at certain times of the day. Likewise, they know every trick in the book when it comes to capturing the best photos & enjoying the most tranquil moments. If you have any specific requirements or special interests, be sure to let us know, so we can arrange the guide with the most suitable expertise.

If you would like to visit some additional or alternative ruins during your stay in the region, please discuss this with your Selective Asia consultant, who will be happy to tailor your itinerary accordingly at the time of booking.

*For clients visiting Sigiriya Rock and Dambulla Caves, your Selective Asia guide will hand over to a local specialist guide. By using these dedicated guides not only are we offering the most informative experience, but also supporting the local community.*

## Day 3: Sunday 13 March 2016

### Overnight

Vil Uyana, Cultural Triangle

### Meals

Breakfast

## Cultural Triangle Tour: Polonnaruwa cycling tour

Make a morning visit to the ancient capital of Polonnaruwa: a UNESCO World Heritage site built over one thousand years ago alongside the spectacular, carefully-engineered reservoirs that provide the region's water to this day. As you arrive at the entrance to the site, collect your bicycles as your tour will be on two wheels. In its day, Polonnaruwa was a thriving commercial and religious centre and as you cycle around the ruins you'll get a feel for what life was like back then. Sightseeing in Polonnaruwa will include the statue of the great Sinhalese King Parakramabahu who built the reservoirs, and the city's well preserved ruins: notable highlights of which is the fascinating area known as the Quadrangle and the impressive Gal Vihara – four separate Buddha images perfectly sculpted into one large piece of granite. Returning to your hotel in time for lunch, the remainder of your day is at leisure.

*Total cycling time is approximately 1.5 hours and bottled water & helmets are provided.*

## Day 4: Monday 14 March 2016

### Overnight

Vil Uyana, Cultural Triangle

### Meals

Breakfast  
Lunch

## Cultural Triangle Tour: Sigiriya Rock Climb, Village Experience

After breakfast proceed to the rock fortress of Sigiriya – one of Sri Lanka's seven UNESCO World Heritage sites. Built in the 5th century by King Kasyapa as a fortress and pleasure palace it dominates the surrounding landscape, rising 200 metres above the ground. The view from the flattened summit of the rock is spectacular and well worth the climb, but those without a head for heights can stroll around the ramparts and pleasure gardens, or take in the famous Sigiriya frescoes that can be found partway up the rock.

There are many legends surrounding King Kasyapa and your guide will tell you more during your visit, but the most common is as follows. King Dhatusena had two sons: Kasyapa who was born of a commoner and Mogallana whose mother was of royal blood. Mogallana was favoured by the King to take over the throne however Kasyapa took over the kingdom by force and his younger brother fled to India. Following an argument over hidden treasure Kasyapa ordered his father killed and, legend has it, the king was buried alive! Fearing his brother's vengeance Kasyapa ordered the construction of this lofty palace to keep him safe. Mogallana did indeed return with an army, but when Kasyapa rode to battle the elephant he was on sensed a hidden swamp and turned away. His troops saw this and, thinking the king was turning back, fled the battlefield. Realising his defeat, and rather than fall captive to his brother, Kasyapa committed suicide.

In the late morning you will have the chance to experience traditional, rural life, away from the ruins. You will have the perfect opportunity to get acquainted with typical village life, meeting farmers and their families. Start with a bullock cart ride, passing through lush green paddy fields as far as a small village where you will be served tea with 'jaggery' – an ingredient used in many sweet dishes throughout the region.

You will learn about the various seasonal crops being harvested and how the local farmers protect their land from wild animals. There will be an opportunity to enjoy a short catamaran ride at a nearby lake, before joining a village family for a traditional farmer's lunch, made using authentic Sri Lankan cooking methods.

After lunch return to your hotel where the remainder of your day is at leisure.

## Day 5: Tuesday 15 March 2016

### Overnight

Vil Uyana, Cultural Triangle

### Meals

Breakfast

## Cultural Triangle Tour: Minneriya National Park

Your morning is at leisure.

In the afternoon, visit Minneriya National Park, for a safari drive with one of the park rangers. The park is home to 24 species of mammal, including sambar & spotted deer, the admittedly very elusive leopard, sloth bear & toque monkey. The star of the show is the elephant, with approximately 200 living in the park. Wardens from Minneriya - & neighbouring Kaudulla & Wasgomuwa National Parks - monitor the elephants' whereabouts on a constant basis, ensuring a high chance of spotting them during your safari, albeit you may find yourself being driven between parks when the elephants are located!

Other inhabitants of the park with a high chance of being spotted include water monitors & the Sri Lankan swamp crocodile. There have been approximately 160 species of bird recorded in the park, including endemics such as the Sri Lanka jungle fowl, hanging parrot & brown-capped babbler.

Return to the hotel where the remainder of your day is at leisure.

## Day 6: Wednesday 16 March 2016

### Overnight

Elephant Stables, Kandy

### Meals

Breakfast

### Tour:

Duration 7hrs

## Dambulla, Spice Garden, Kandy, Temple of the Tooth Relic

Morning departure for the sacred city of Kandy, stopping en route to visit the 1st century BC Dambulla Rock Cave Temple. Legend tells us that, during an invasion from South India, the Sinhalese king took refuge in these caves & through meditation gained the strength to drive the invaders away. Having declared the caves as a sacred area, he built the first cave temple, with the others added by the rulers who followed him. Today, the caves are an important pilgrimage site for Buddhists from around the world.

En route to Kandy, visit a Spice and Herbal Garden. Sri Lanka is world renowned for its valued spices and healing herbs such as Sandalwood, Citronella and Jasmine. When visiting the garden, you will also learn first-hand how the likes of nutmeg, cinnamon and saffron are grown in their natural surroundings. (Please note that despite the sometimes pushy nature of the sales staff here, there is certainly no obligation to make a purchase, unless of course you wish to)

Continue to Kandy, arriving in the afternoon. This ancient sacred city was capital of Sri Lanka from 1592 until the rule of the British in the 19th Century. Now a UNESCO World Heritage site, Kandy is best known for its Temple of the Tooth Relic, and as host to the most important festival in Sri Lanka's calendar; the Esala Perahera. It's an extremely picturesque city with steep, green valley-side running away from it in all directions, making your first descent into the city a very special moment indeed.

In the late afternoon, visit the city's most famous site; the Dalada Maligawa, or Temple of the Tooth Relic. Here, Buddhists believe they have enshrined a tooth of the Lord Buddha, which was rescued by monks from his funeral ashes and handed over to the king of Kalinga in eastern India. When the Kalinga kingdom was facing imminent defeat from a neighbouring state, the relic was sent to Sri Lanka through a Prince and Princess disguised as pilgrims. The tooth's golden casket is revealed to the eager eyes of waiting pilgrims twice a day, causing a frenzy of prayers.

## Day 7: Thursday 17 March 2016

### Overnight

Elephant Stables, Kandy

### Meals

Breakfast

## Kandy, City Tour, Peradeniya Botanical Gardens

Take a morning tour of the city. Your guide will be happy to personalise your programme, however there are some sites we suggest you don't miss.

Take a walk through Kandy's bustling market where fruit sellers sit beside butchers, intermingling with craft stalls. A visit here offers an insight into local life. After the chaotic buzz of the market, escape to the tranquillity of the delightful Peradeniya Botanical Gardens.

Modelled on Britain's Kew Gardens, all the plants and trees are marked with their botanical names, and in many cases the name of the famous visitor or dignitary that planted it. The gardens house the largest variety of orchids found in Sri Lanka.

If it's culture you crave then the ancient temples of Gadaladeniya, Lankathilaka & Ambekke are found in a picturesque setting just outside Kandy. Built in the 14th century they are known for

their intricate carvings.  
The remainder of your day is at leisure.

## Day 8: Friday 18 March 2016

### Overnight

Stafford Bungalow,  
Tea Country

### Meals

Breakfast

### Tour:

Duration 5hrs

## Kandy, Tea Country Train, Nuwara Eliya Tour, Tea Factory Visit, Tea Country

Morning transfer to Kandy's train station for a scenic train ride through the tea country that surrounds the city. From the comfort of your carriage, you will pass through mile after mile of some of the world's finest tea, being picked by the colourfully dressed expert Tamil tea pickers. The region is dotted with numerous waterfalls & deep, picturesque valleys.

Nuwara Eliya itself, rather ambitiously referred to as 'Little England' because of its English country village vibe, makes for a pleasant day or two. The town does have a lot of Colonial character, with a Victorian style village post office, an English church & the St Andrew's golf club, along with a horse racing course.

Upon arrival you will be met by your guide for a tour of Nuwara Eliya and a nearby tea factory where you will learn about the history and modern-day production methods of this region's most valuable commodity.

Continue by car along the network of winding roads that cross the high tea country region, reaching your hotel in the mid afternoon. The remainder of your day is at leisure.

*Please note: Train tickets can only be booked 45 days in advance of travel. First Class carriage seats will be requested, however if these are not available, tickets will be secured for an alternative carriage.*

## Day 9: Saturday 19 March 2016

### Overnight

98 Acres Resort &  
Spa, Tea Country (2)

### Meals

Breakfast  
Lunch  
Dinner

## Tea Country, Ella

Transfer by road to Ella, situated on the edge of Tea Country.

Ella is a beautiful village with just a handful of shops, restaurants and guesthouses. It offers the perfect vantage point for views through Ella Gap, a picturesque valley that cuts through the hills and far into the distance.

Your afternoon is at leisure.

## Day 10: Sunday 20 March 2016

### Overnight

Cinnamon Wild  
Yala, Nr Yala NP

### Meals

Breakfast

## Tea Country, Yala National Park Safari

Morning departure south, leaving the rich hill-soils of the tea country, descending to the more arid lands of the south east and, in particular, Yala National Park.

Check in to your lodge for this evening, situated just outside the park. In the afternoon make the short drive to the park gates where you will be assigned a tracker and also change vehicle to a far more suitable soft-top jeep, which affords the best outlook for viewing wildlife.

Yala National Park covers an area of around 129,700 hectares, with 14,000 hectares open to visitors. The park's two main sections are conveniently known as Yala West and Yala East. Yala West, or Ruhuna National Park, is considered to have the world's highest density of leopards, with approximately 35 leopards believed to reside within the park's boundaries. Beside leopards, other animals that can be seen in the park are elephants and sloth bear; a variety of deer and monkey; mongoose & crocodiles. Bird lovers will favour Yala East, with its huge array of bird life - over 130 recorded avian species. There are significant numbers of water birds too, such as the Lesser Flamingo & rare Black Necked Stork, and during the north-east monsoon the park's lagoons are visited by vast numbers of migrating waterfowl.

Join your guide & tracker for a dusk drive through the park. Dawn & dusk are the most popular times for dozing leopards to leave their rocky outcrops and hunt.

As darkness falls, return to the park's main gates and make the short journey to your nearby lodge to share stories of the day's viewings.

## Day 11: Monday 21 March 2016

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### Overnight

Number One  
Mirissa, South  
Coast Beach

### Meals

Breakfast

## Yala National Park Safari, Mirissa

Rising early, join your guide & tracker once again for a dawn drive through the park spotting for wildlife. For many, the morning is the most exhilarating time, watching and listening as the park's inhabitants noisily greet the new day.

Return to your lodge for breakfast, before departing for your beach resort.

Arrive at Mirissa and having checked in, the remainder of your day is at leisure.

Mirissa is famed for its idyllic beaches, colourful sunsets and whale watching.

## Day 12: Tuesday 22 March 2016

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### Overnight

Number One  
Mirissa, South  
Coast Beach

### Meals

Breakfast

## Mirissa

Your day is at leisure.

## Day 13: Wednesday 23 March 2016

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### Overnight

The Fort Printers,  
Galle

### Meals

Breakfast

## Mirissa: Whale Watching Experience, Turtle Hatchery Visit, Galle

Early morning departure from your hotel for your whale watching experience. On arrival at Mirissa Fisheries Harbour board a small, specially adapted boat and head out into the ocean. Whale watching season on the southern coast of Sri Lanka runs between November and April, when the annual migration brings these incredible mammals to the region. Sri Lanka is now ranked amongst the top locations in the world to see Blue Whales & Sperm Whales and you will have the opportunity to see both, as well as the possibility of spotting Killer Whales. In addition to whales, Bluefin Tuna, flying fish, dolphins and occasionally turtles can also be seen from the observation deck of your boat.

After your cruise, return to the mainland and on to visit one of the many turtle hatcheries that line the south coast.

The beaches of Sri Lanka are prime nesting grounds for five species of marine turtles, however these creatures are sadly facing extinction and turtle hatcheries have been established to monitor sea turtle activity and conserve the local nesting sites. You will learn about the conservation work that takes place at the hatchery and have the opportunity to see tanks filled with new born turtle hatchlings that, after 2-4 days, will be released into the sea (usually during the safer hours of darkness.)

After your visit, transfer to Galle and enjoy an afternoon tour, visiting a few key highlights of the famous Galle Fort, including a walk along its impressive ramparts.

Another of Sri Lanka's UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Galle is a charming fortified Colonial town, with its history of Portuguese, French & British occupation showing through in the architecture and wonderful interiors found throughout Old Galle.

New Galle, outside the walls, is more reminiscent of a miniature Delhi or Mumbai, but is still worth a poke around, for its markets if nothing else. Our favourite recommendation for Old Galle is a stroll around the fortified ramparts, which extend nearly all the way round the town, and offer fantastic views into the streets, out across the ocean, and over the town's cricket ground - especially interesting if there's a match on! You'll find the same recommendation in all the guidebooks, but don't let that put you off - it really is special, particularly if you get chatting to the locals, who're usually up there with you.

*Whale watching is arranged on a shared basis.*

## Day 14: Thursday 24 March 2016

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### Overnight

Jetwing Beach,  
Negombo

### Meals

Breakfast

## Galle Cycle Tour, Negombo

After an early breakfast, transfer out of Galle to Unawatuna for a morning of cycling. After a short briefing and having chosen your bike, saddle up and set out, following your local guide. The tour stays primarily on side roads and gravel tracks, passing a lagoon and mangroves; paddy fields, temples and villages. It's a great opportunity to witness the daily life of the local people and explore the scenic landscape.

After 2.5 to 3 hours of leisurely cycling return to base, where you will be met by your driver and transferred back to Galle to freshen up before being transferred to Negombo on the west coast, perfectly located just 30 minutes drive from the airport. Upon arrival, check-in to your hotel. Negombo is a major resort with a wide sandy beach and a number of large beachfront hotels. It is also a traditional fishing village and it's possible to witness the local fishermen returning with their daily catch.

## Day 15: Friday 25 March 2016

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### Meals

Breakfast

## depart Colombo

Early morning transfer to Colombo Airport for your onward flight.

## Flights

*Please inform us of your flight details as soon as possible, or advise any flights you would like us to arrange for you.*

For further accommodation details and additional information please see below

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# Accommodation Details

The following hotel selection is based on my understanding so far of your budget requirements and hotel preferences. We inspect all the hotels that we recommend and I will be happy to discuss the finer details, such as room types and facilities, as well as make alternative suggestions if required.

## Room Configuration:

1 x Double Room

Unless otherwise specified, standard check-in time is 2pm & check-out time is midday.

### The Gateway Hotel Airport Garden Colombo

Category	Room Type
First Class	Executive King (New Wing)

Nestled amidst a 38-acre coconut plantation bordering the tranquil Negombo Lagoon...

[\(read more\)](#)

### Vil Uyana Cultural Triangle

Category	Room Type
Deluxe	Marsh Dwelling

It's hard to know where to start with a resort such as Vil Uyana - it's one of those properties that takes you by surprises...

[\(read more\)](#)

### Elephant Stables Kandy

Category	Room Type
Superior	Deluxe

A beautifully restored Colonial property, the Elephant Stables was originally home to Kandy's first elected mayor...

[\(read more\)](#)

### Stafford Bungalow Tea Country

Category	Room Type
Deluxe Boutique	Deluxe

Initially built by Scottish planters back in 1884 and set on a 50-acre working tea plantation you don't get much more authentic...

[\(read more\)](#)

### 98 Acres Resort & Spa Tea Country (2)

Category	Room Type
Superior Boutique	Deluxe

Built on (not coincidentally) 98 acres of historic tea estate with mind-blowing views across waves of emerald Ceylon tea towards...

[\(read more\)](#)

### Cinnamon Wild Yala Nr Yala NP

Category	Room Type
Deluxe Lodge	Jungle Chalet

With its game-lodge style luxury bungalows and excellent location, tucked against the border of Yala National Park...

[\(read more\)](#)

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## Number One Mirissa

South Coast Beach

Category	Room Type
First Class	Ground Floor

A characterful boutique hotel looking out across beautiful Mirissa Bay, Number One Mirissa strikes just the right balance between eccentric luxury and ...

[\(read more\)](#)

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## The Fort Printers

Galle

Category	Room Type
Superior Boutique	Deluxe

The utterly charming Fort Printers hotel was originally a school house, later a print house before being turned into its latest reincarnation...

[\(read more\)](#)

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## Jetwing Beach

Negombo

Category	Room Type
Deluxe	Deluxe

Excellent facilities, a sleek style and a mouthwatering beachfront location all combine to create a winning formula...

[\(read more\)](#)

# Important Booking Information

We are committed to the holidays we offer and the countries we specialise in. As a company we pride ourselves on providing a truly personal service, and as individuals we aim to ensure that your holiday experience is smooth, efficient and fun from start to finish.

## Why travel with us?

All your holiday arrangements will be handled by a true Asia specialist, people who have travelled, and often lived, in their countries of expertise. Combine this with a minimum of 10 years travel industry experience and you start to understand why you truly are in safe hands. Selective Asia was founded in 2005 and is a fully ATOL bonded, privately owned tour operator.

From start to finish Our sales service does not stop the moment you make a payment - your holiday will be overseen by the same Asia specialist right up to the day of your return. We are used to dealing with the occasional problems that may arise from creating complicated itineraries, such as minor flight changes, as well as those of a more complex nature. In any such circumstances, we will do everything possible to minimise any inconvenience or disruption to your holiday.

## Your guide

Where specified, you will have a personal guide\* accompanying you during your journey. We believe that an essential part of a successful holiday is the knowledge and enthusiasm your local guides. They have the ability to bring your holiday alive and therefore we use only the very best guides available in each destination, many

of whom work solely with Selective Asia.

Please note: days or half days shown as 'at leisure' mean that you will not have your guide with you during this time, allowing you time to explore for yourself or simply relax. If you would prefer to have a guide with you at these times, please let us know.

\*During certain activities in Borneo you may share your local guide with other guests of the lodge(s).

## Responsible tourism

At Selective Asia we feel passionately about the regions we visit and the people that make our holidays such wonderful experiences. We understand that the efforts we all make today will help to sustain the cultures and the environments for others that follow.

As an operator, we do as much as possible to minimise our footprint in Asia and will only work with local travel partners who have the same beliefs as us. Where it is viable, we include a wide range of responsible-tourism initiatives in our itineraries, such as visits to charitable organisations, orphanages, craft shops and home stays. We encourage all our clients to be considerate to the lands, cultures and communities that are hosting them during their holiday and would ask that you all take time to read further details at [www.selectiveasia.com/about/responsible-tourism-asia](http://www.selectiveasia.com/about/responsible-tourism-asia).

We are very proud to have been awarded Silver Status by the Heritage Friendly Campaign of Cambodia. We believe that it is essential to care and respect the destinations we work in. This award reflects the efforts we have made within Cambodia and across Asia.

## Our vehicles

We use a number of modes of transportation, often on a daily basis, each of which is best suited to the demands of the terrain as well as to optimise your comfort and where relevant your viewing experience. Vehicles are modern and regularly tested for roadworthiness.

## Tipping

You are very welcome to tip your guide if you wish to and it would undoubtedly be very much appreciated. However, it is not a requirement and is left entirely to your discretion. A suitable tip for two people travelling would be in the region of \$10-12 per day for your guide and \$5-6 for your driver (per couple not per person). You can tip in either local currency or US\$

## 24-hour service

Whilst travelling with Selective Asia you will have a local 24-hour contact telephone number to use in the case of any emergencies. This will be provided with your final travel documents.

## Tailor-made

If you feel that any improvements can be made to your holiday itinerary please be sure to let us know – we believe in tailoring each holiday to our client's precise specifications.

## Our Pricing Policy

The price of any holiday we arrange is always dependent on a number of specific factors and finer details such as the standard of hotels, room types and modes of transportation. We are always happy to advise on how best to bring your holiday into line with your budget.

## Medical and vaccinations

It is essential that you seek professional medical advice before departing your country of residence. In some instances you will be advised to take malarial precautions and you may be prescribed certain inoculations. It is vital that you follow the advice given and complete any prescriptions even after returning home. Your Selective Asia consultant is not qualified to advise on these matters.

Further details: [www.selectiveasia.com/travel-essentials/malaria-vaccinations](http://www.selectiveasia.com/travel-essentials/malaria-vaccinations)

**Please note:** All itineraries and quotes are correct at the time of sending. Availability cannot be confirmed until a financial commitment is made.

## What's Included?

### Inclusive:

- ✓ A private, English speaking, local guide as listed (see below for further details on Borneo)
- ✓ Accommodation as listed
- ✓ Land transportation by private air-conditioned vehicles
- ✓ Flights as listed in the itinerary
- ✓ All admission fees at attractions & temples
- ✓ Activities as mentioned in the itinerary
- ✓ Meals as listed (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

### Exclusive:

- Entry visas (unless specified)
- Meals not listed in the itinerary
- Drinks
- Personal expenses (laundry, telephone etc)
- All other services not listed in 'inclusive'