



SHANGRI-LA
HAMBANTOTA

The Explorer's Guide TO HAMBANTOTA & BEYOND



A photograph of four fishers using traditional stilt fishing in Sri Lanka. They are standing on wooden poles in the shallow blue ocean, holding long fishing lines. The background shows a calm sea and a clear sky.

Discover More WITH EVERY MILE

From sun-kissed southern shores to sacred cities and cloud-kissed highlands, Shangri-La Hambantota is your gateway to Sri Lanka's diverse wonders. Each handpicked experience—whether nearby or a scenic drive away—unveils the island's soul, inviting you to explore its wild beauty, ancient heritage, and stories carved into every landscape.

An aerial photograph of a tropical coastline. On the left, a wide, sandy beach curves along the shore, with white waves crashing onto the sand. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, transitioning to a deeper blue further out. To the right of the beach, a dense, lush green forest covers the land. Several small, rustic buildings with brown roofs are nestled within the trees. The overall scene is idyllic and serene, capturing the beauty of a tropical paradise.

Little Journeys, Lasting Memories

From bustling coastal towns to hidden botanical gems, embark on short escapes that capture the spirit of Sri Lanka's south. Just a drive away, every turn brings a new story to discover.

Short Trips



Tangalle City & Local Bazaar

Wander through Tangalle's bustling streets and colourful bazaars brimming with spices, sarongs, and stories. Soak in the laid-back charm of this fishing town and uncover its coastal soul—vibrant, authentic, and full of local flavour.

43 km | Approx. 55 mins



Hambantota City Tour

Step into the heart of Sri Lanka's southern capital. From colonial remnants to cultural parks and fishing harbours, Hambantota blends heritage and modernity in an unhurried rhythm, perfect for a leisurely afternoon stroll.

7 km | Approx. 15 mins



Ambalantota Charm Tour

Trace the ancient spice routes through Ambalantota—a quiet riverside town once vital to Sri Lanka's trade. Discover charming temples, a local market, and timeless stories etched into every street.

18 km | Approx. 25 mins



Dry Zone Botanical Garden

Where arid beauty thrives—this garden showcases the rare flora of Sri Lanka's dry zone. Wander among native blooms and medicinal herbs in a beautifully curated landscape just minutes away from the coast.

11 km | Approx. 15 mins



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... Short *Trips*



Birds Park

Feathers flutter and colours dance in this lush aviary haven. Home to over 200 exotic and endemic bird species, the park invites you into a world of song, wing, and wonder.

10 km | Approx. 12 mins



Ussangoda Plateau & Blowhole Scenic Stop

Red earth meets cobalt sea at Ussangoda's otherworldly plateau—believed to be of cosmic origin. Nearby, witness the natural spectacle of the blowhole, where waves breathe through rock in roaring bursts.

31 km | Approx. 40 mins



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Timeless Tales Etched in Stone

Walk in the footsteps of kings, pilgrims, and traders. Our curated cultural journeys unveil sacred shrines, ancient ports, and living heritage that reveal Sri Lanka's soul through its enduring traditions.

Explore our *Culture & Heritage*



Kataragama Sacred City

Join pilgrims at one of Sri Lanka's most revered multi-faith shrines. Kataragama's sacred grounds hum with centuries of devotion, where rituals, incense, and ancient legends blend in a powerful spiritual experience.

53 km | Approx. 1 hr

Ramba Raja Maha Viharaya

Hidden in time, this serene temple once stood as a royal monastery of kings. Explore its ancient stone inscriptions, weathered stupas, and jungle-wrapped ruins that echo tales from Sri Lanka's glorious past.

24 km | Approx. 30 mins



Mulkirigala Rock Temple

Climb through history on this rock temple's ancient stone steps. Carved into a cliffside, Mulkirigala reveals cave frescoes, reclining Buddhas, and sweeping jungle views that reward your ascent.

43 km | Approx. 1 hr



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...Explore our

Culture & Heritage



Sacred Shores of Kirinda

Stand where legend meets the sea. Kirinda's windswept coast is home to a sacred temple perched above crashing waves—its mythic origins and panoramic views make for a soulful coastal stop.

43 km | Approx. 1 hr

Ambalantota & Godawaya Ancient Port

Where river meets sea, discover the forgotten port of Godawaya—once a maritime gateway to the East. Today, its windswept coast and hidden relics whisper tales of seafarers, monks, and trade.

19 km | Approx. 25 mins



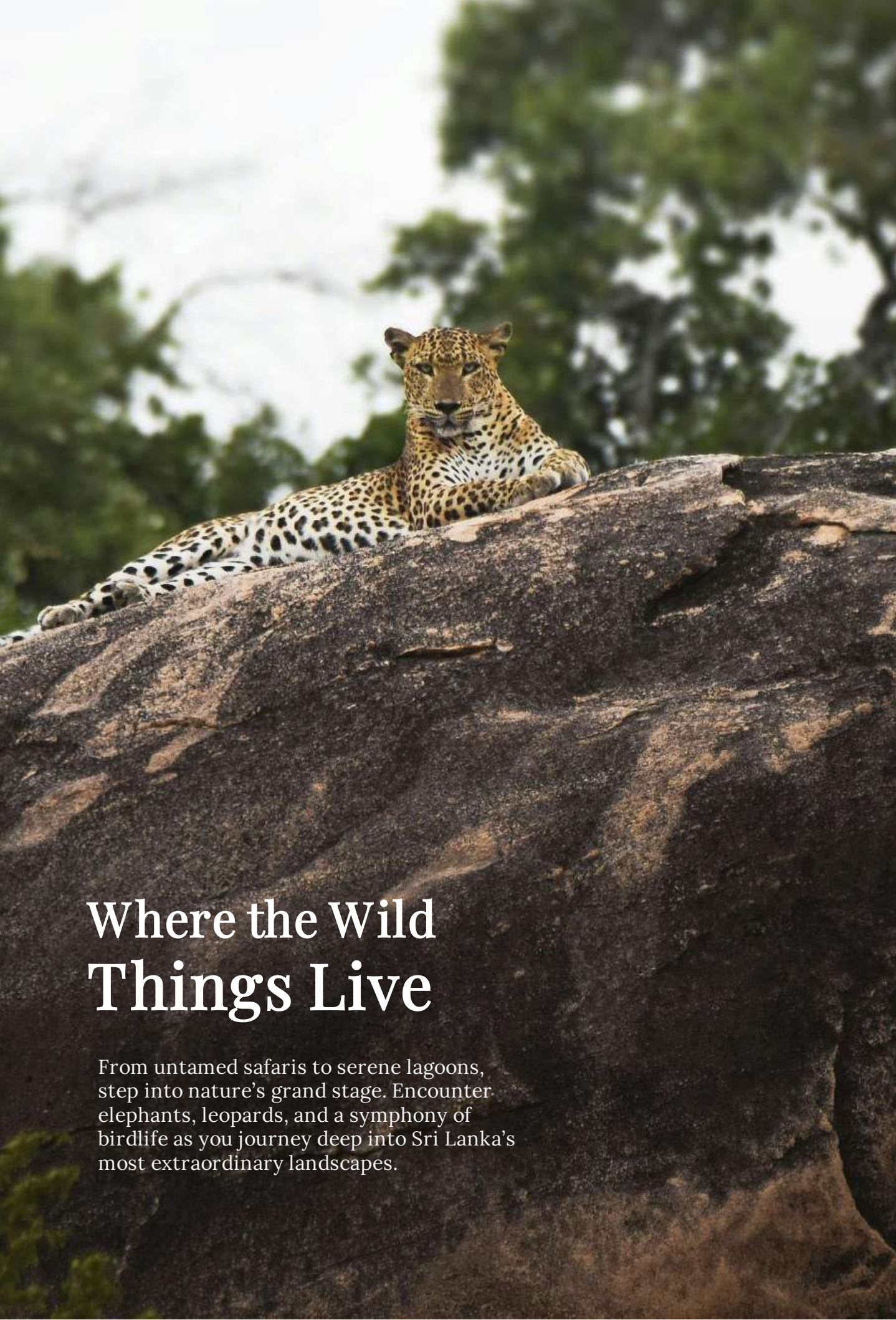
Galle Fort Excursion (via Koggala)

Travel through coastal towns to Galle Fort—a living museum and UNESCO gem. Cobbled lanes, colonial architecture, chic boutiques, and sea-splashed ramparts await in this vibrant walled city.

125 km | Approx. 2 hrs 30 mins



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Where the Wild Things Live

From untamed safaris to serene lagoons, step into nature's grand stage. Encounter elephants, leopards, and a symphony of birdlife as you journey deep into Sri Lanka's most extraordinary landscapes.

Nature & *Adventure Galore!*



Yala National Park

Seek out the elusive leopard in the wilds of Yala. Sri Lanka's most iconic park offers thrilling safaris through scrub forests, salt flats, and golden dunes alive with wildlife.

56 km | Approx. 1 hr

Udawalawa Elephant Safari

Come face to trunk with Sri Lanka's gentle giants. Udawalawa National Park promises thrilling elephant encounters, wild buffalo sightings, and birdlife aplenty across misty grasslands and shimmering reservoirs.

70 km | Approx. 1 hr



Udawalawe Elephant Transit Home

Where healing begins and hope grows. At this sanctuary adjacent to the National Park, orphaned elephants are nurtured for release into the wild—including El-la, Shangri-La's adopted calf. Watch their playful feedings and feel a deeper connection to Sri Lanka's wildlife heritage.

70 km | Approx. 1 hr



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...Nature & *Adventure Galore!*



Bundala Lagoon Safari

Glide through shimmering wetlands at sunrise or sunset. Bundala's lagoon teems with flamingos, crocodiles, and migratory birds—an untouched paradise for birdwatchers and nature lovers alike.

45 km | Approx. 50 mins

Ridiyagama Safari Park

Experience Sri Lanka's first drive-through safari park. Spot lions, zebras, and elephants roaming wide open spaces—a family-friendly adventure just a short drive from the resort.



Dry Zone Botanical Garden & Birds Park Combo

Double the delight in one easy tour. Explore endemic flora in dry zone beauty, then follow the flutter of feathers through a world of rare and exotic birds—all just minutes from the resort.



Day Tour to Sinharaja Rainforest

Venture deep into Sri Lanka's last great rainforest. A UNESCO World Heritage site, Sinharaja stuns with rare flora, endemic birds, and symphonies of forest life echoing through ancient canopies.

170 km | Approx. 4 hrs



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Whispers of The Highlands

Leave the coast behind and ascend to a world of tea-scented air and emerald valleys. Discover the cool charm of Ella, Haputale, and beyond—where the hills tell their own quiet stories

Rolling Hills

With stories to tell



Ella Day Excursion

Where cloud-kissed cliffs meet colonial charm—Ella is a hill station of waterfalls, tea trails, and iconic Nine Arches Bridge views. Spend a day exploring its cool breeze, cozy cafés, and postcard-perfect panoramas.

139 km | Approx. 2 hrs

Haputale & Lipton's Seat

Step into Sir Thomas Lipton's view at sunrise. From emerald tea estates to panoramic mountain horizons, Haputale enchants with its colonial allure and breathtaking vantage points.

123 km | Approx. 2 hrs 45 mins



Nuwara Eliya Hill Country Escape

Often called “Little England,” Nuwara Eliya blends rose gardens, racecourses, and misty mountain air. Spend the day wandering colonial-era charm and sipping the world's finest Ceylon tea at its source.

190 km | Approx. 4 hrs 30 mins



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...Rolling Hills

With stories to tell



Belihuloya River Picnic & Nature Walk

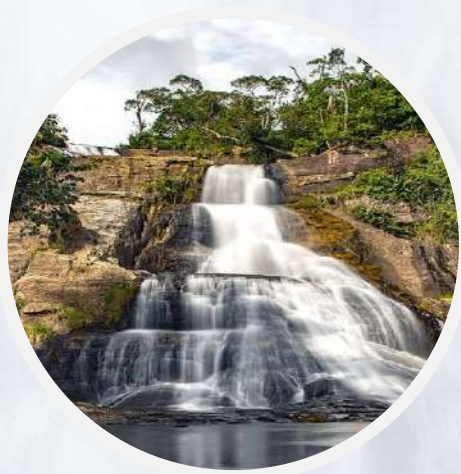
Pack a picnic for a riverside escape. Tucked between hills and forest, Belihuloya offers gentle hikes, natural pools, and the soothing rhythm of water under wild fig trees.

111 km | Approx. 2 hrs 30 mins

Wellawaya Nature & Fall

Explore hidden cascades and rice field trails around Wellawaya, where nature flows freely. A stopover of serenity en route to Ella's cooler climes.

97 km | Approx. 2 hrs



Badulla via Passara

Journey through scenic tea country to Badulla, passing through Passara's rolling hills. Uncover quiet temples, railway heritage, and Sri Lanka's quieter side of the highlands.

153 km | Approx. 3 hrs 45 mins



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Coastal Rhythms & Gentle Tides

Bask in golden horizons and salt-kissed breezes. From turtle nesting shores to tranquil bays, unwind where ocean and sky meet in perfect harmony.

Rest by *the Waves*



Tangalle & Rekawa Turtle Watching
By moonlight, witness an ancient ritual unfold. At Rekawa Beach, sea turtles return to nest—an unforgettable encounter with nature’s rhythm after exploring Tangalle’s coastal serenity.
47 km | Approx. 1 hr

Turtle Evening at Rekawa
As dusk settles, join conservationists on the shore to witness turtles nesting under starlit skies. A humbling and silent spectacle of nature, just a short drive from Hambantota.
49 km | Approx. 1 hr



Hiriketiya Surf & Chill
Boho vibes meet rolling surf in Hiriketiya Bay. Whether you’re paddling out or lounging under palm trees, this horseshoe-shaped haven is the perfect blend of barefoot charm and easygoing energy.
71 km | Approx. 1 hr 30 mins



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...Rest by *the Waves*



Matara Beach Tour & Heritage

Where golden beaches meet colonial echoes—explore Matara's ramparts, Dutch fort, and seaside spirit. A soulful blend of heritage and horizon.

96 km | Approx. 1 hr 50 mins

Mirissa Whale Watching

Set sail at sunrise and scan the deep blue for giants. Mirissa is one of the world's top spots to see blue whales, dolphins, and marine life in their natural glory.

113 km | Approx. 1 hrs 45 mins



Weligama Beach

A gentle bay where surfers find their first wave and travellers slow down. Weligama is ideal for a breezy day of beachfront cafés, coastal strolls, and ocean-dipped toes.

106 km | Approx. 2 hrs



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