

FINDERS & KEEPERS SAFARIS

A LIFE OF MAKING MEMORIES

SOLO SAFARI

The Cultural Triangle & Apex Wilds

“Ancient sky palaces, hundreds of wild elephants at the Gathering, and deep ocean blue whale tracking”

10

DAYS

1

HOT AIR BALLOON OVER SIGIRIYA

1

BLUE WHALE SAFARI

1

SOLO

FROM

\$7,550

PER PERSON

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Overview

This flagship itinerary perfectly balances Sri Lanka's grandest structural history with the raw, untamed theatre of its wildlife plains and eastern ocean canyons. Climbing past the giant stone Lion's Paws at Sigiriya, tracking hundreds of wild elephants at the Minneriya Gathering, then a private helicopter to the east coast for blue whale tracking and snorkelling inside the live coral sanctuaries of Pigeon Island.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Sigiriya Rock Fortress — climbing past the giant carved Lion's Paws to the 5th-century royal sky palace and frescoes of King Kashyapa
- The Minneriya Gathering — hundreds of wild Asian elephants converging around the ancient reservoir, one of the world's greatest wildlife spectacles
- Ritigala Nature Reserve — ancient stone paths and bathing pools buried beneath strangler fig trees, completely free of crowds
- Private helicopter flight to the east coast of Trincomalee — the deep ocean canyons of one of the world's finest natural harbours
- Pigeon Island Marine Sanctuary — snorkelling over untouched live coral reefs alongside harmless black-tip reef sharks and sea turtles
- Polonnaruwa — the massive Gal Vihara rock temple with four magnificent Buddha statues carved from a single granite boulder
- Sundowner of chilled champagne and spiced cashew canapés from an open-top safari vehicle as the sun drops behind the elephant plains
- Hot air balloon at dawn over the rock monoliths of Sigiriya and the emerald lake networks below
- Deep-sea blue whale tracking safari from Trincomalee — tracking the largest creatures on Earth in the deep ocean canyon
- Koneswaram Temple — a sacred Hindu shrine perched on a sheer basalt cliff dropping vertically into the Indian Ocean

Ancient sky palaces, hundreds of wild elephants at the Gathering, and deep ocean blue whale tracking

The Itinerary

01

COLOMBO, SRI LANKA

Day 1 | Nairobi » Colombo — Arrival in Sri Lanka

VIP handling at Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta Airport, direct flight to Bandaranaike International Airport in Colombo. VIP tarmac reception, private guide to a luxury city estate. Private guided tour of Colombo if arriving before 4:00 PM — historic landmarks, vibrant markets, beautiful waterfront. Elegant welcome dinner overlooking the Indian Ocean.

- Premier City Estate, Colombo
- Dinner

02

SIGIRIYA

Day 2 | Sigiriya — The Fortress of the Sky King

Drive into the Cultural Triangle. Sigiriya Rock Fortress — climbing past the giant carved Lion's Paws to the 5th-century royal sky palace and frescoes of King Kashyapa, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Panoramic views from the summit over the surrounding jungle and ancient water gardens. Check into Water Garden Sigiriya — Luxury Plunge Pool Villa — or Heritance Kandalama. Gourmet dinner.

- Water Garden Sigiriya
- Breakfast, Dinner

03

POLONNARUWA & MINNERIYA

Day 3 | Polonnaruwa & The Minneriya Elephant Gathering

The monumental stone stupas and giant rock-carved Buddha statues of Polonnaruwa — the massive Gal Vihara with its four figures carved from a single granite boulder. Afternoon in an open-top luxury 4x4 inside Minneriya National Park as the Gathering unfolds — hundreds of wild elephants converging around the ancient reservoir. Champagne and spiced cashews from the vehicle deck as the sun drops. Gourmet dinner.

- Water Garden Sigiriya
- Breakfast, Dinner

04

RITIGALA

Day 4 | Hidden Gem — Ritigala Sunken Jungle Monasteries

Trek deep into Ritigala Nature Reserve — massive, beautifully preserved ancient stone paths and bathing pools buried beneath giant strangler fig trees, completely crowd-free. A 1st-century BC Buddhist monastery hidden in the jungle. Rich biodiversity — wild elephants and rare birds. A multi-course Sri Lankan fusion bonfire dinner at the Sigiriya resort, lit by hundreds of hanging lanterns.

- Water Garden Sigiriya
- Breakfast, Dinner

05

TRINCOMALEE, EAST COAST

Day 5 | Balloon over Sigiriya & Helicopter to Trincomalee

Before dawn, a hot air balloon drifting silently over the rock monoliths of Sigiriya and the emerald lake networks — the ancient fortress and surrounding jungle from above. Champagne toast and gourmet breakfast after landing. A short private helicopter to the coastal shores of Trincomalee — the spectacular aerial coast and turquoise water. Check into Uga Jungle Beach — Ocean Villa. Gourmet dinner.

- Uga Jungle Beach, Trincomalee
- Breakfast, Dinner

06

TRINCOMALEE, EAST COAST

Day 6 | Deep-Sea Blue Whale Tracking Safari

A private luxury speedboat from the harbour into the deep ocean canyon of Trincomalee — tracking the largest creatures on Earth, wild blue whales and sperm whale pods patrolling the deep water. Hot gourmet breakfast and Ceylon coffee served on the speed boat deck floating in the open deep blue ocean. Afternoon at leisure at the resort. Gourmet dinner.

- Uga Jungle Beach, Trincomalee
- Breakfast, Dinner

07

PIGEON ISLAND

Day 7 | Pigeon Island Marine Sanctuary

A private boat to Pigeon Island National Park — world-class snorkelling over untouched live coral reefs, swimming alongside harmless black-tip reef sharks and sea turtles in crystal-clear water. The island's pristine beaches and tropical marine life. Return to the resort for a relaxed evening.

- Uga Jungle Beach, Trincomalee
- Breakfast, Dinner

08

TRINCOMALEE

Day 8 | Koneswaram Clifftop Temple Architecture

A private architectural walk to the sacred Koneswaram Temple — perched on a sheer basalt cliff dropping vertically into the Indian Ocean, the colourful spires and 2,000-year history of this important Hindu site. Your guide explains the history. The extraordinary cliff views. Return for gourmet dinner.

- Uga Jungle Beach, Trincomalee
- Breakfast, Dinner

09

TRINCOMALEE

Day 9 | Exclusive Indigenous Vedda Heritage Tour

Into the eastern coastal forests with community elders of the indigenous Vedda heritage — Sri Lanka's original hunter-gatherers. Ancient bow-and-arrow engineering, forest medicinal botany, bark-cloth crafting. A private performance of jungle storytelling and ritual dances around a grand beachside bonfire. Celebratory farewell dinner at Uga Jungle Beach paired with vintage wines.

- Uga Jungle Beach, Trincomalee
- Breakfast, Dinner

10

TRINCOMALEE

Day 10 | Return to Colombo & Departure

A relaxed luxury breakfast watching the ocean waves. Check out, chauffeur transfer back along the national highway to Colombo. Complementary spa session at a city hotel. Airport transfer for international flight back to Nairobi.

- City Hotel, Colombo
- Breakfast

INVESTMENT

Pricing & Inclusions

PER PERSON SHARING

\$8,200

SINGLE TRAVELLER SUPPLEMENT

On Request

Pricing is an estimate subject to confirmation based on season, group size, and final accommodation selection.

SEASONAL PRICING

Jan – May	SHOULDER SEASON	\$8,600
Dry on the west & south coasts		
May – Sep	BEST VALUE	\$7,550
Dry season on the east coast		
Sep – Dec	PEAK SEASON	\$8,850
Dry season returns island-wide		

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- » VIP tarmac handling at all airports
- » All private luxury vehicle transfers
- » 9 nights luxury accommodation
- » All meals — Full Board throughout
- » International flights Nairobi–Colombo–Nairobi
- » Sigiriya Rock Fortress guided climb
- » Polonnaruwa rock temple private historian
- » Minneriya safari — The Gathering
- » Ritigala jungle monastery trek
- » Hot air balloon over Sigiriya
- » Private helicopter to Trincomalee
- » Deep-sea blue whale tracking safari
- » Pigeon Island snorkelling
- » Koneswaram temple architectural walk

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- International flights to/from Nairobi (confirm at booking)
- Gratuities for guides & staff
- Premium imported alcohol
- Items of a personal nature

FINDERS & KEEPERS SAFARIS

Tell us what you have in mind.

This itinerary is a starting point, not a fixed departure. The pace, the lodges, the length, the dates and the party travelling can all be reshaped around you.

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