

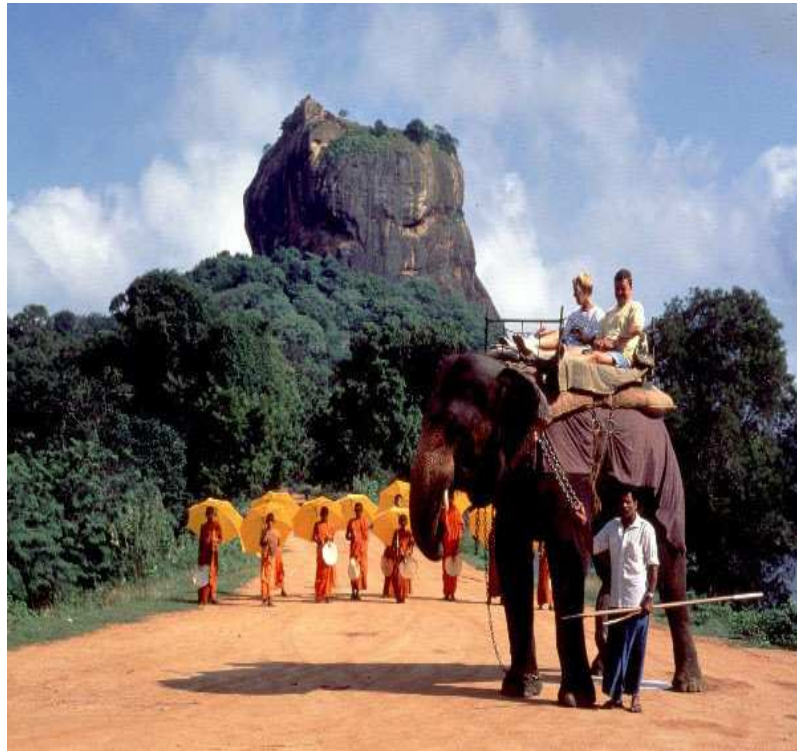


Sri Lanka, also well known as Ceylon, is an island nation in the Indian Ocean, located in Southern Asia, southeast of India, in a strategic location near major Indian Ocean sea lanes. It has a total area of 65,610 km², with 64,740 km² of land and 870 km² of water. The coastline is 1,340 km long.

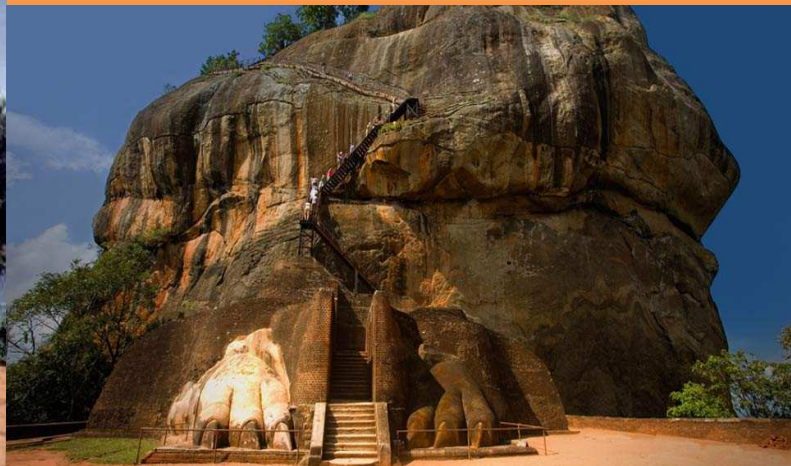
Two well-rostered monsoons bring adequate seasonal rain; keeping one half of the island rain-free in turn, year-round. Thus while the south and west has a sunny, dry 'high season' from November to April, the eastern and northern regions enjoy excellent weather from May to September.

Sri Lanka's terrain is mostly low, flat to rolling plain, with mountains in the south-central interior. The highest point is Pidurutalagala at 2,524 meters. Natural resources include limestone, graphite, mineral sands, gems, phosphates and clay.

SIGIRIYA



SIGIRIYA (Lion's Rock) is an ancient rock fortress and palace ruin situated in the Matale District of Sri Lanka, surrounded by the remains of an extensive network of gardens, reservoirs, and other structures. Sigiriya was built during the reign of King Kasyapa (AD 477 – 495), is a World Heritage Site preserved by UNESCO. It is also considered to be the World's Eighth Wonder.



NuwaraEliya



Nuwara Eliya, meaning city on the plain or city of light, is a town in the central highlands of Sri Lanka with a picturesque landscape and a mild-temperate climate. It is located at an altitude of 1,868 m (6,128 ft) and is considered to be the most important location for Tea production in this country. The town is overlooked by Pidurutalagala, the tallest mountain in Sri Lanka.



Bentota



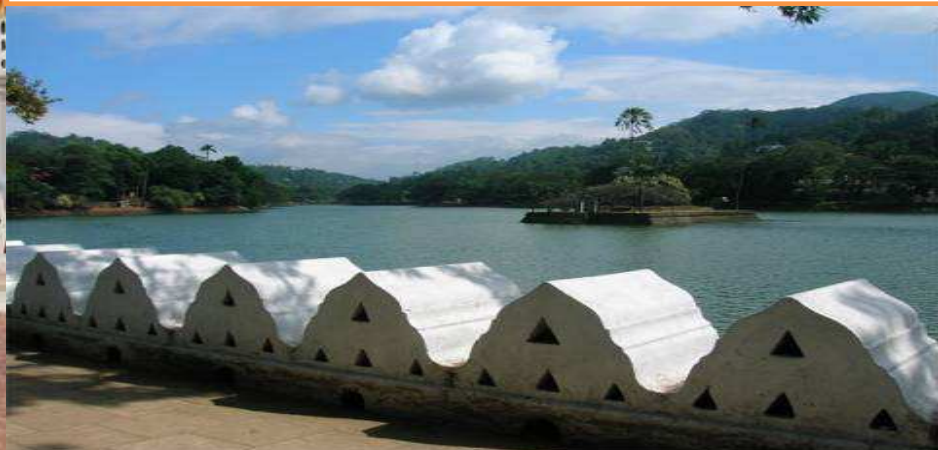
BENTOTA the Sri Lankan coastal city famous for golden beaches is situated on the southern coastal tip of the Galle District of the Southern Province. The town is a popular tourist attraction and also a favorite destination for sea bathing. The varied and exciting range of water- sports includes wind-surfing, water-skiing, sailing, scuba diving, snorkeling, speed boat, banana boat, jet- scooter and fun-tube riding. Boat cruises in rivers and lagoons offer adventure and insights of river banks, wet land flora, wild life and rural life style. Bentota hosts several star class theme resorts and beach hotels; a wonderful city of sun and fun.



Kandy



KANDY is the English name for the city of Maha Nuwara (Senkadagalapura) in the very heart of Sri Lanka. Situated in the midst of hills which cross an area of tropical plantations, Kandy is one of the most scenic cities in Sri Lanka that attracts multiple thousands of tourists each year. It is also considered to be the most sacred city in Asia celebrating the colorful pageant of the Asala Perahara each year in August.(Pic on left)



Kalpitiya

Placed 150 km north of the capital, Colombo, the Kalpitiya region is one of the most beautiful coastal areas located in the Western Province of Sri Lanka. Kalpitiya is a peninsular that separates the Puttalam lagoon from the Indian Ocean and is a marine sanctuary with a diversity of habitats ranging from bar reefs, flat coastal plains, saltpans, mangroves swamps, salt marshes and vast sand dune beaches. Dolphins also can be spotted during the season between November and March of the year.



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