Discover Sri Lanka’s breathtaking diversity

Darmstadt, May 17th 2018 *** Sri Lanka enchants visitors with its many facets, colors, diverse religions, and centuries-old traditions, which determine the unique character of the country. The spectacular nature scenes, wild animals, and dream beaches distinguish the island state and offer unforgettable experiences for travelers. Green Pearls® introduces some fascinating destinations in Sri Lanka.
From the plantation into your cup

Sri Lanka belongs to the largest exporters of tea worldwide. Tea plants especially flourish in the highlands near Nuwara Eliya, the “city of lights.” It is worth visiting the plantations, not only for the view. Tourists can dabble in tea picking here – or just wander along the slopes and enjoy the outlook. From the train, which traverses the tea plantations on its ride from Kandy to Nuwara Eliya, the sight is extraordinary and unfolds the plantations’ dimensions. If you are curious how the tea gets into your cup eventually, you can learn more about the manufacturing process in Mackwoods’ Labookellie Tea Centre. After visiting the factory, guests can enjoy a cup of Ceylon tea in the factory’s beautiful garden.
Recovery on the beach and watersports

Sri Lanka is surrounded by the sea and therefore has to offer some beautiful beaches. Next to Passikudah Bay with its golden sand beaches and biodiverse coral reefs, Amaya Beach Resort & Spa is located. Owing to the offshore reef, the bay is considered as one of the safest and most shallow bays on the island at the same time. Several watersports are offered here, from snorkeling to windsurfing and sailing to canoeing. Between March and October, blue whales and sperm whales visit the bay and can be watched during gentle boat tours.
Watch pachyderms on a safari

In Sri Lanka a number of national parks can be found where a plethora of wild animals is home. A large population of elephants and various bird species can be sighted close to the action in Wasgamuwa National Park in the heart of the island, for instance. Somewhat north, Minneriya National Park is likewise worth a visit: the park is not only among the ten best wildlife experiences but you can spot leopards in their natural environment with a little luck.
Amidst the island’s green heart

Those who want to see more of the landscape than from the inside of the safari van can discover the island’s tropical green on various trails. There are many ways to experience Sri Lanka’s nature vividly, by foot, by mountain bike, or by boat. A popular target is the waterfall Hunas Falls near Kandy city. Entwined by dark green leaf canopies, the stream runs over slick washed rocks and rushes 60 meters into the depth. Just a stone’s throw away from this impressive spectacle, Amaya Hunas Falls Resort is situated. The hotel’s view on the surrounding landscape is breathtaking and is a perfect starting point for many trips into the countryside. About 70 kilometers from Hunas Falls away, a refreshing bath can be taken in Kandalama reservoir. A whole different vision on the landscape can be offered from a hot-air balloon. The ballooning starts near Amaya Lake Hotel.
Lion’s Rock – the eighth wonder of the world

Once built to deter assailants, “the eighth wonder of the world” towers about 200 meters above treetops into the sky. Crossing more than 1,800 steps through caves, gardens and ponds, one can reach the ancient city of Sigiriya on the summit of Sigiriya Rock, the Lion Rock. Due to its size and shape the rock originally ought to intimidate assailants and protect the city. Even though the lion’s statue is not remained fully, the UNESCO world heritage site attracts many visitors every year. The entrance to the city leads through the giant paws of the lion – remains of the massive statue – across an external staircase along the rock. Colorful frescoes adorn the way toward the summit and a panoramic view of Sri Lanka’s landscape.
Historic journey to temples

Traditionally, Hinduism and Buddhism play an important role in Sri Lanka. Ancient temples tell the stories of both religions. The Golden Temple of Dambulla is regarded as the largest cave-temple complex worldwide and is also a UNESCO World Heritage. Round about 2,100 sq meters Buddhist mural art ornament the temple’s caves, where more than 150 statues of Buddha are situated. Another UNESCO World Heritage is the ancient city of Polonnaruwa, which reveals traces of a fabulous garden-city including ponds, palms, and Brahmanic monuments, stone statues, and pillars. Nearby Kandy, the beautiful carvings on the wooden pillars in Hindu-temple Embekka give ideas about the ancient kingdom’s cultural prosperity.

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