

EXPLORE!

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Unawatuna Beach Extension

SRI LANKA - TRIP CODE SB



Why book this trip?

Why not extend your trip to Sri Lanka with three nights on the palm-fringed beaches of Unawatuna? With turquoise waters, fine white sands and plenty of beachside restaurants there is nowhere better to relax after exploring the island. The hotel is right on the beach and has two swimming pools as well as a variety of activities including yoga classes, kayaking and paddle boarding.



INCLUDED MEALS
Breakfast: 4



TRIP STAFF
None



TRANSPORT
None



ACCOMMODATION
3 nights
comfortable hotel



TRIP PACE:
Relaxed

Itinerary

Itineraries on some departure dates may differ, please select the itinerary that you wish to explore.

DAY 1 - Transfer to your beach hotel in Unawatuna

Today you will transfer to your hotel, right on the fabulous Unawatuna Beach. There are excellent facilities including two swimming pools, free wifi, beach volleyball and yoga classes. The resort of Unawatuna, based around the palm-fringed crescent-shaped beach, has a selection of restaurants and bars offering numerous opportunities for relaxing evenings.

If you are joining from a trip already in Unawatuna, you can simply remain in the hotel instead of returning to Colombo for the last night.

Please note: Any activities mentioned below are booked and paid for directly with the hotel or other local suppliers and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.



ACCOMMODATION:
Calamander Unawatuna Beach Resort (or similar)

Grade: Comfortable Hotel



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



DAY 2 - Day at leisure to enjoy the beach or explore the local area

You are free to relax today, with no planned activities, but if you want to get out and explore it is easy to do so. The colonial town of Galle, an important trading centre since ancient times, is under 4 km away. The fortifications that remain were built by the Portuguese and Dutch from the 16th to the 17th centuries. The ramparts of this UNESCO World Heritage Site protect the harbour and a myriad of fascinating old houses, churches and warehouses. Today the town is a magnet for artists, writers, photographers, designers and poets who draw inspiration from their surroundings. Boutique shops and cafes around the town showcase their work. Also worth checking out is the Galle's Dutch Market with numerous stalls of colourful fruits, vegetables and salted fish, all crammed inside the grand 300 year old colonial building.

Aside from Unawatuna Beach, there are several other beaches nearby such as the secluded Jungle Beach, reached by a 25 minute walk or a short tuk-tuk ride. The beach has a couple of sandy coves and is particularly good for swimming and snorkelling.

Alternatively, a journey of around 18km inland will take you to the Hiyare Forest Reserve with 600 acres of pristine rain forest which attracts a huge variety of birds. The Sri Lankan green pigeon, Ceylon rose, two-spotted thread tail and black ruby barb call the area home, as well as forest animals such as mongoose, the purple-faced leaf monkey and the rare hog deer. The reserve also takes in injured animals, cares for and rehabilitates them before releasing them back in to the wild.



ACCOMMODATION:

Calamander Unawatuna Beach Resort (or similar)

Grade: Comfortable Hotel



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

DAY 3 - Free day to enjoy Unawatuna Beach and the surrounding area

After a day relaxing on the beach, snorkelling in the sea or exploring the nearby area, there are plenty of beach side bars and restaurants for the perfect end to your day. Fresh sea food is on almost every menu, and there are many Sri Lankan dishes for you to try. Often spicy and always aromatic, they burst with a

mixture of exotic flavours. Ambul Thiyal is possibly the closest thing to a national dish - a unique sour and spicy fish preparation with a thick paste made of Goraka, a fruit also known as Malabar tamarind.



ACCOMMODATION:
Calamander Unawatuna Beach Resort (or similar)

Grade: Comfortable Hotel



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

DAY 4 - Return to Colombo Airport by rail and road

You can depart Unawatuna at any time today. You will be transferred to nearby Galle Railway Station to take a train to Colombo Maradana station, rubbing shoulders with the locals as you travel. The train journey is around two hours and follows the scenic coastal route through countryside and right along the shore before entering into the city of Colombo. Once at your final stop you will be met off the train and taken to the Colombo International Airport (CMB) by car for your return flight.



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

Trip information

Climate and country information

Sri Lanka

Climate

Year round high temperatures in coastal regions: Colombo averages 81°F. It is much cooler in the hills with Kandy averaging 68°F and Nuwara Eliya down to 61°F. Springlike temperatures in the hill country, but chilly evenings. Two monsoon periods: Apr-Sep when rain is confined to the southwest; and Oct-Mar when it falls in the northeast.

Time difference to GMT	Plugs	Religion	Language
+12.5 (PCT)	3 Pin Round	Buddhism	Sinhala, Tamil

Budgeting and packing

Clothing

Only lightweight clothing and swimwear is needed.

Footwear

Lightweight shoes and sandals.

Luggage

20kg

Sri Lanka

Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Lunch price	Dinner price	Beer price	Water price
£6.00	£9.00	£3.50	£1.00

Foreign Exchange

Local currency	Recommended Currency For Exchange	Where To Exchange
Sri Lankan Rupee.	US\$ and UK£ are equally good	In most major towns.

ATM Availability

Yes, usually in major towns.

Credit Card Acceptance

Credit cards can usually be used in most large shops and restaurants. Please note that Foreign Office advice warns about the problem of credit card fraud in Sri Lanka so please consider this when deciding if to pay by card while on tour.

Travellers Cheques

Are not easy to change and where they can be changed the exchange rates can be poor.

Transport, Accommodation & Meals

Accommodation notes

The Calamander Unawatuna Beach is a comfortable hotel located right on the beach. It features two swimming pools, a gym and yoga classes, as well as boules and croquet. Water activities include kayaking, paddle boarding, snorkeling, diving, and whale and dolphin watching. Beach cricket matches are held regularly and beach volleyball is also arranged. All the rooms are en suite and have partial sea view, garden view, or a mountain view, and come with a balcony or terrace.

Essential Information

Government Travel Safety Advice

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office advice [click here](#).

For more information from Explore about travel advice, [click here](#)

Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

Price Guarantee

Once your booking has been confirmed we guarantee the price will not increase, whatever the circumstances. Before booking please ensure you have read our important tour pricing information. [Booking Conditions](#)

Visa and Passport Information

Sri Lanka: All foreign nationals who intend to visit Sri Lanka for a short stay of up to six months, including transit passengers, must apply for travel authorization online prior to travel to the country.

To obtain an Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) you must visit <http://www.eta.gov.lk> to apply for it prior to travel. It is strongly recommended that you print and bring a copy of the ETA approval notice with you. The Sri Lankan authorities require that your passport must be valid for at least 6 months after departure from Sri Lanka.

For arrivals up to 30th April 2020 all UK, EU, US, Australian, New Zealand and Canadian nationals will not need to pay for a short stay visa of up to 30 days, although will still need to apply for an Electronic Travel Authorisation on line before travel. For arrivals on or after the 1st May 2020, a fee of 35USD will apply for the ETA.

All visa information is subject to change. You should confirm all visa related issues with the relevant Embassy prior to departure.

If you do require assistance in obtaining a visa then you may be able to apply through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK, Travcour. See www.travcour.com to download the relevant visa application for your trip, if applicable (UK citizens only), along with details of how to apply for your visa through Travcour. The Team at Travcour will be happy to answer specific questions relating to visa applications, please call them directly on 0208 5431846.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are in possession of a full passport, with the correct validity for your chosen destination.

Booking conditions

Before booking your Explore trip, please ensure that you read both our Essential Information and Booking Conditions.

Transfers

Find out more about [Trip Transfer Terms and Conditions](#) before you book.

Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found below in the dates and prices information.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer.

Joining Tour Abroad

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The complimentary transfers will be arranged from the Explore designated airport or train station to your trips joining point, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. Generally the airport or station that Explore have selected will be the one that is closest to the town or city where the trip starts, or the one nearest to the joining point. It will be either an airport or train station but not both.

The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Polar, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer [click here](#)

Insurance

It is a condition of booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully

cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. The cost of many of our Polar Voyages will exceed the capped amount covered by standard insurance premiums and you will be required to pay an additional premium to cover the full value of your trip. Please ensure that you are covered for the full amount of your holiday cost, as insufficient cover could invalidate a claim under the policy. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

Read more information about what travel insurance is required.

Flight information

Explore offers a wide range of flexible flying options to make joining and leaving our trips easy. Read more about them here.

Flight Information

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

Sri Lanka

Vaccinations

Nothing compulsory, but we recommend protection against malaria, tetanus, typhoid, hepatitis A plus Polio and diphtheria. Consult your travel clinic for latest advice on different prophylaxis available against malaria. We strongly recommend the wearing long sleeved shirts and the liberal application of insect repellents containing DEET as a precautionary measure to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes. These precautions should be taken at all times as the mosquitoes are also active during daylight hours. Please check the latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at Explore Travel Health and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed by you before traveling.

Reviews





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