

Itinerary – 10 – Birding, Mammals and other Wildlife tour in Sri Lanka - 15 Days 14 Nights

Day 01 – Assuming arrive in the early morning/morning and stay at a hotel near airport. Evening visit a small patch of forest near Negambo for nocturnal birds and mammals.

Overnight stay at Hotel near Airport.

Possible highlights of birds: Brown hawk Owl, Indian Scops Owl, Brown wood Owl.

Possible highlights of mammals: Brown Mongoos, Ruddy Mongoos, Indian Flying Fox, Sri Lanka Red Slender Loris E, Golden Palm Civet E.

Day 02 - After breakfast drive to Sigiriya, and afternoon birding at forest near Sigiriya rock for looking for forest birds and other wildlife (i.e. reptiles, butterflies, dragonflies, etc).

Overnight stay at the hotel in Sigiriya.

Possible highlights of birds: Forest Eagle Owl, Oriental Scops Owl, Brown Fish Owl, Indian Nightjar, Jerdon's Nightjar, Ceylon Grey Hornbill, Blue-faced Malkoha, Indian Pitta, Jerdon's Bushlark, Ceylon Woodshrike, White-browed Bulbul, Indian Blue Robin, Orange-headed Thrush, White-rumped Shama, Jungle Prinia, Green Warbler, Large-billed Warbler, Brown-capped Babbler, Streaked Weaver.

Possible highlights of mammals: Purple-faced Leaf Monkey E (dry zone race), Tufted Grey Langur e, Sri Lanka Giant Squirrel e (dry zone race), Grey Slender Loris e, White-striped Chevrotain E, Brown Palm Civet E, Rusty-Spotted Cat e, Jungle Cat,

Day 03 – Whole day in Sigiriya and its surrounding. Visit to Sigiriya Sanctuary, looking for birds, mammals (including nocturnal species), and other wildlife.

Overnight stay at a Hotel in Sigiriya.

Possible highlights of birds: Forest Eagle Owl, Oriental Scops Owl, Brown Fish Owl, Indian Nightjar, Jerdon's Nightjar, Ceylon Grey Hornbill, Blue-faced Malkoha, Indian Pitta, Jerdon's Bushlark, Ceylon Woodshrike, White-browed Bulbul, Indian Blue Robin, Orange-headed Thrush, White-rumped Shama, Jungle Prinia, Green Warbler, Large-billed Warbler, Brown-capped Babbler, Streaked Weaver.

Possible highlights of mammals: Purple-faced Leaf Monkey E (dry zone race), Tufted Grey Langur e, Sri Lanka Giant Squirrel e (dry zone race), Grey Slender Loris e, White-striped Chevrotain E, Brown Palm Civet E, Rusty-Spotted Cat e, Jungle Cat,

Day 04 – Whole day in Sigiriya and its surrounding. Visit to Sigiriya Sanctuary, looking for birds, mammals (including nocturnal species), and other wildlife.

Overnight stay at a Hotel in Sigiriya.

Possible highlights of birds: Forest Eagle Owl, Oriental Scops Owl, Brown Fish Owl, Indian Nightjar, Jerdon's Nightjar, Ceylon Grey Hornbill, Blue-faced Malkoha, Indian Pitta, Jerdon's Bushlark, Ceylon Woodshrike, White-browed Bulbul, Indian Blue Robin, Orange-headed Thrush, White-rumped Shama, Jungle Prinia, Green Warbler, Large-billed Warbler, Brown-capped Babbler, Streaked Weaver.

Possible highlights of mammals: Purple-faced Leaf Monkey E (dry zone race), Tufted Grey Langur e, Sri Lanka Giant Squirrel e (dry zone race), Grey Slender Loris e, White-striped Chevrotain E, Brown Palm Civet E, Rusty-Spotted Cat e, Jungle Cat,

Day 05 – Morning leave for Kandy in the high hills. Late afternoon walk in hotel garden looking for some nocturnal mammals and also other wildlife.

Overnight stay at a hotel in Kandy.

Possible highlights of birds: Layard's Parakeet, Ceylon Hanging- parrot, Ceylon Junglefowl, Malarbar Trogon, Yellow-fronted Barbet, Crimson-backed Flameback, Black-capped Bulbul, Spot-winged Thrush, Rufous (Orange-billed) Babbler, Lesser Hill Myna

Possible highlights of mammals: Toque Macaque E (wet zone race), Purple-faced Leaf Monkey E (wet zone race), Sri Lanka Giant Squirrel e (wet zone race), Indian Giant Flying Squirrel, White-striped Chevrotain E, Brown Palm Civet E.

Day 06 – Morning leave for Nuwara Eliya in the high hills.

Late afternoon visit forest patch near Nuwara Eliya looking for some highland birds and mammals and also other wildlife.

Overnight stay at a hotel in Nuwara Eliya.

Possible highlights of birds: Yellow-eared Bulbul, Ceylon Whistling Thrush, Ceylon Wood Pigeon, Dusky (Dull) Blue Flycatcher, Kashmir Flycatcher, Indian Blackbird (endemic race *kinnissi* a possible future split from the Indian Blackbird), Ceylon Hill white-eye, Ceylon Bush Warbler, Black-throated Munia (endemic nominate race, the Ceylon Hill Munia, a possible future split from the Indian races), Himalayan Buzzard, Pied Bush Chat.

Possible highlights of mammals: Purple-faced Leaf Monkey E (highland race), Sambar, Toque Macaque E (highland race), Dusky-striped Jungle Squirrel E, Striped-necked Mongoose e, Sri Lanka Giant Squirrel e (highland race), Golden Palm Civet E.

Day 07 - Early morning proceed to Horton Plains National Park (Hotel to park entrance - one hour drive) on further higher up in the hills, the park consists of grasslands and cloud forest in higher cool climatic conditions, looking for highland open country and forest birds including endemics, and also butterflies, highland forest mammals and other wildlife.

Return to hotel for late lunch. Late afternoon visit forest patch near town or a forest near town.

Overnight stay at Hotel in Nuwara Eliya

Possible highlights of birds: Yellow-eared Bulbul, Ceylon Whistling Thrush, Ceylon Wood Pigeon, Dusky (Dull) Blue Flycatcher, Kashmir Flycatcher, Indian Blackbird (endemic race *kinnissi* a possible future split from the Indian Blackbird), Ceylon Hill white-eye, Ceylon Bush Warbler, Black-throated Munia (endemic nominate race, the Ceylon Hill Munia, a possible future split from the Indian races), Himalayan Buzzard, Pied Bush Chat.

Possible highlights of mammals: Purple-faced Leaf Monkey E (highland race), Sambar, Toque Macaque E (highland race), Sri Lanka Giant Squirrel e (highland race), Dusky-striped Jungle Squirrel E, Striped-necked Mongoose e.

Day 08 - Morning leave for Thissamaharama for three nights. Check in at the hotel by lunch time. Afternoon visit Yala National Park by jeeps, the park consists of wetlands, and dry grasslands, scrublands and forest, looking for waterbirds, shorebirds, forest and nocturnal birds including some endemics, and also butterflies, Asian Elephant, Leopard, Sloth Bear and other forest mammals, and other wildlife.

Overnight stay at Hotel in Thissamaharama.

Possible highlights of birds: Black-necked Stork, Spot-billed Pelican, Lesser Adjutant, Ceylon Junglefowl, Indian Nightjar, Jerdon's Nightjar, Jerdon's Bushlark, Ceylon Woodshrike, White-browed Bulbul, Marshall's Iora, Brahminy Starling, Rosy Starling.

Possible highlights of mammals: Chital, Sambar, Asian Elephant, Tufted Grey Langur e, Eurasian Wild Boar, Golden Jackal, Sloth Bear e, Leopard, Rusty-Spotted Cat e, Jungle Cat, Striped-necked Mongoose e, Ruddy Mongoose e, Indian Grey Mongoose, Indian Gerbil, Wild Water Buffalo, Indian Hare e.

Day 09 – Morning visit Lunugamvehera or Bundala National Park looking for wetland and forest and other wildlife. Afternoon visit wetlands around Tissa/Yala looking for wildlife and after dusk for nocturnal birds, mammals. A night jeep drive outside the park for nocturnal mammals.

Overnight stay at Hotel in Thissamaharama.

Possible highlights of birds: Great Thick-knee, Black and Yellow Bitterns, Pheasant-tailed Jacana, Small Pratincole, Watercock, Brown Fish Owl, Indian Scops Owl, Blue-faced Malkoha, Ceylon Woodshrike, Marshall's Iora, Tawny-bellied Babbler, Yellow-eyed Babbler, Jungle Prinia, Rosy starling.

Possible highlights of mammals: Chital, Sambar, Asian Elephant, Tufted Grey Langur e, Eurasian Wild Boar, Golden Jackal, Striped-necked Mongoose e, Ruddy Mongoose e, Indian Grey Mongoose, Indian Gerbil, Wild Water Buffalo, Indian Hare e.

Day 10 – In Yala-Tissa area looking for birds, mammals and other wildlife. Evening second visit to Yala National Park. A night jeep drive outside the park for nocturnal mammals.

Overnight stay at Hotel in Thissamaharama.

Possible highlights of birds: Black-necked Stork, Spot-billed Pelican, Lesser Adjutant, Ceylon Junglefowl, Indian Nightjar, Jerdon's Nightjar, Jerdon's Bushlark, Ceylon Woodshrike, White-browed Bulbul, Marshall's Iora, Brahminy Starling, Rosy Starling.

Possible highlights of mammals: Chital, Sambar, Asian Elephant, Tufted Grey Langur e, Eurasian Wild Boar, Golden Jackal, Sloth Bear e, Leopard, Rusty-Spotted Cat e, Jungle Cat, Striped-necked Mongoose e, Ruddy Mongoose e, Indian Grey Mongoose, Indian Gerbil, Wild Water Buffalo, Indian Hare e.

Day 11 - Morning leave for Udawalawa. Check in to hotel in Udawalawa by lunch time, for one night. Subsequently an afternoon visit to Udawalawa National Park (Hotel to park entrance - 10 minutes drive) on jeeps, the park consists of dry grassland, scrub and forest, looking for open country and grassland birds including some endemics and also butterflies, Asian Elephant and other forest mammals, and other wildlife.

Overnight stay at hotel in Udawalawa.

Possible highlights of birds: Crested Hawk-Eagle, Crested Serpent Eagle, Indian Peafowl, Yellow-crowned Woodpecker, Sirkeer Malkoha, Blue-faced Malkoha, Indian Scops Owl, Alexandrine Parakeet, Plum-headed parakeet, Orange-breasted Green Pigeon, Marshall's Iora, Crested Treeswift, Coppersmith Barbet, Malabar Pied Hornbill, Jerdon's Bushlark, Blyth's Pipit, Ashy-crowned Sparrow-Lark, Lesser Adjutant, Ceylon Woodshrike, Indian Black Robin, White-browed Bulbul, Jungle Prinia, Ashy Prinia, Plain Prinia, Grey-breasted Prinia, Yellow-eyed Babbler, Black-headed Munia, Rosy Starling.

Possible highlights of mammals: Ruddy Mongoose, Asian Elephant, Golden Jackal, Jungle Cat, Indian Flying Fox, Lesser Tube-nosed Bat.

Day 12 – Morning leave for Sinharaja rainforest. Afternoon visit Sinharaja Forest Reserve, looking for forest birds, mammals and other wildlife.

Overnight stay at a Hotel / Forest Lodge in Sinharaja.

Possible highlights of birds: Ceylon Spurfowl, Serendib Scops Owl, Ceylon Junglefowl, Chestnut-backed Owlet, Ceylon Frogmouth, Green-billed Coucal, Red-faced Malkoha, Layard's Parakeet, Ceylon Hanging-parrot, Malarbar Trogon, Crimson-backed Flameback, Yellow-fronted Barbet, Black-capped Bulbul, Spot-winged Thrush, Ceylon Scally Thrush, Rufous (Orange-billed) Babbler, Ashy-headed Laughing-thrush, Legge's Flowerpecker, White-faced Starling, Ceylon Crested Drongo, Ceylon Hill Myna, Ceylon Blue Magpie

Possible highlights of mammals: Toque Macaque E (wet zone race), Purple-faced Leaf Monkey E (wet zone race), Sri Lanka Giant Squirrel e (wet zone race), Sri Lanka Red Slender Loris E, Sri Lanka Flameback squirrel E, Dusky-striped Jungle Squirrel E, Sri Lanka Yellow Spotted Chevrotain E, Sambar, Wholly Horse-shoe Bat, False Vampire Bat, Rainbow Bat.

Day 13 – Late morning leave for Kitulgala. Afternoon visit Kitulgala rainforest looking for forest mammals (including nocturnal species) and other wildlife.

Overnight stay at hotel in Kitulgala.

Possible highlights of birds: Ceylon Spurfowl, Serendib Scops Owl, Ceylon Junglefowl, Chestnut-backed Owlet, Ceylon Frogmouth, Layard's Parakeet, Green-billed Coucal, Ceylon Hanging- parrot, Malarbar Trogon, Yellow-fronted Barbet, Crimson-backed Flameback, Black-capped Bulbul, Spot-winged Thrush, Rufous (Orange-billed) Babbler, Legge's Flowerpecker, Ceylon Crested Drongo, Ceylon Hill Myna, Ceylon Blue Magpie

Possible highlights of mammals: Toque Macaque E (wet zone race), Purple-faced Leaf Monkey E (wet zone race), Sri Lanka Red Slender Loris E, Sri Lanka Giant Squirrel e (wet zone race), Sri Lanka Flameback squirrel E, Dusky-striped Jungle Squirrel E, Sri Lanka Yellow Spotted Chevrotain E, Sambar, Wholly Horse-shoe Bat, False Vampire Bat, Rainbow Bat.

Day 14 – Full day in Kitulgala. Afternoon visit kitulgala rainforest looking for forest birds, mammals (including nocturnal species) and other wildlife.

Overnight stay at hotel in Kitulgala.

Possible highlights of birds: Ceylon Spurfowl, Serendib Scops Owl, Ceylon Junglefowl, Chestnut-backed Owlet, Ceylon Frogmouth, Layard's Parakeet, Green-billed Coucal, Ceylon Hanging- parrot, Malarbar Trogon, Yellow-fronted Barbet, Crimson-backed Flameback, Black-capped Bulbul, Spot-winged Thrush, Rufous (Orange-billed) Babbler, Legge's Flowerpecker, Ceylon Crested Drongo, Ceylon Hill Myna, Ceylon Blue Magpie

Possible highlights of mammals: Toque Macaque E (wet zone race), Purple-faced Leaf Monkey E (wet zone race), Sri Lanka Red Slender Loris E, Sri Lanka Giant Squirrel e (wet zone race), Sri Lanka Flameback squirrel E, Dusky-striped Jungle Squirrel E, Sri Lanka Yellow Spotted Chevrotain E, Sambar, Wholly Horse-shoe Bat, False Vampire Bat, Rainbow Bat.

Day 15 – In Kitulgala. Morning visit kitulgala rainforest looking for forest mammals and other wildlife.

After lunch leave for airport for departure.