

5-Day Sri Lanka Nature & Wildlife Tour Itinerary

This itinerary highlights Sri Lanka's diverse ecosystems, focusing on its incredible wildlife and natural beauty.

Day 1: Wilpattu National Park – Land of Leopards

- Start your tour at **Wilpattu National Park**, Sri Lanka's largest and oldest national park, famous for its leopards, sloth bears, and diverse birdlife.
- Enjoy a **half-day safari**, exploring its unique villus (natural lakes) and spotting wildlife.
- Spend the evening relaxing in a nearby eco-lodge amidst the wilderness.

Overnight near Wilpattu.

Day 2: Minneriya National Park – Elephant Gathering

- Travel to **Minneriya National Park**, famous for the annual elephant gathering, one of the world's largest wild elephant congregations.
- Take an **afternoon safari** to witness elephants in their natural habitat, along with other wildlife such as deer, buffalo, and a variety of bird species.

Overnight in Habarana or Sigiriya.

Day 3: Knuckles Mountain Range – Misty Highlands and Trails

- Head to the **Knuckles Mountain Range**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and biodiversity hotspot.
- Engage in a **guided trek** through lush forests, waterfalls, and rural villages, offering breathtaking views and a chance to see endemic flora and fauna.
- Visit local spice gardens and interact with villagers to learn about their sustainable lifestyle.

Overnight in Kandy or near Knuckles.

Day 4: Yala National Park – Land of Leopards and Crocodiles

- Travel to **Yala National Park**, the most popular park in Sri Lanka and known for having one of the world's highest leopard densities.
- Embark on an **afternoon safari**, spotting leopards, elephants, crocodiles, and colorful birdlife.
- End your day with a relaxing stay at a nearby wildlife resort.

Overnight near Yala.

Day 5: Bundala National Park or Udawalawe – Birding and Elephants

1. Bundala National Park (Optional)

- Ideal for birdwatching enthusiasts, Bundala is a Ramsar wetland with flamingos, spoonbills, and herons. You may also spot crocodiles and elephants.
- Duration: 3–4 hours.

OR

2. Udawalawe National Park

- Famous for its elephant herds and other wildlife, including water buffalo, jackals, and a variety of birds. Enjoy a **morning safari** for close encounters with elephants.
- Duration: 3–4 hours.

Afternoon:

- Return to Colombo or extend your tour with a visit to a nearby destination.

Tour Highlights Recap

1. **Wilpattu National Park:** Leopards and unique villu ecosystem.
2. **Minneriya National Park:** Elephant gatherings.
3. **Knuckles Range:** Trekking and misty highlands.
4. **Yala National Park:** Diverse wildlife, including leopards.
5. **Bundala or Udawalawe:** Birdlife and elephants.