



Embrace the celebratory spirit of festival season, where music, dance, and feasts create unforgettable moments of joy.

About Kandy Perahera

The Kandy Esala Perahera, also known as the Festival of the Tooth, is one of the oldest and grandest Buddhist festivals in Sri Lanka. It is celebrated with great pomp and pageantry, attracting thousands of locals and tourists. The procession honors the Sacred Tooth Relic of Lord Buddha, which is housed at the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic (Sri Dalada Maligawa) in Kandy.

Key Highlights:

- **Procession:** The Perahera features traditional Kandyan dancers, drummers, fire-dancers, whip-crackers, and caparisoned elephants.
- **The Sacred Tooth Relic:** The Tooth Relic is carried in a golden casket on the back of the Maligawa Tusker, the lead elephant of the procession.
- **Traditional Rituals:** The festival includes various religious and cultural rituals, reflecting Sri Lanka's rich heritage.
- **Duration:** The Perahera spans over ten days, with the grand finale on the final night, known as the Randoli Perahera.

Tips:

- **Accommodation:** Book your accommodation well in advance, as Kandy gets very crowded during the Perahera period.
- **Seating:** Secure a good viewing spot early, or consider booking seats through a tour operator for the best experience.
- **Dress Code:** Dress modestly, especially when visiting temples and religious sites.

This itinerary provides a mix of cultural immersion, sightseeing, and relaxation, ensuring you have a memorable experience at the Kandy Esala Perahera.

The Kandy Esala Perahera is one of the most spectacular cultural events in Sri Lanka, held annually in Kandy. The festival usually takes place in July or August and lasts for about ten days. It features a grand

procession with traditional dancers, drummers, and beautifully decorated elephants, celebrating the Sacred Tooth Relic of Lord Buddha.

Here's a 5-day tour itinerary centered around the Kandy Esala Perahera:

Day 1: Arrival in Colombo

- Arrive at Bandaranaike International Airport, Colombo.
- Transfer to your hotel.
- Explore Colombo at your leisure.
- Overnight stay in Colombo.

Day 2: Travel to Kandy

- Travel to Kandy (approximately 3-4 hours from Colombo).
- Check-in at your hotel in Kandy.
- Explore the Kandy city, visit the Kandy Lake and the Royal Botanical Gardens.
- Evening: Attend the Kandy Perahera procession.
- Overnight stay in Kandy.

Day 3: Kandy Sightseeing

- Visit the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic.
- Explore the Kandy National Museum and the Sri Dalada Museum.
- Visit the Bahiravokanda Vihara Buddha Statue for panoramic views of Kandy.
- Evening: Attend the Kandy Perahera procession.
- Overnight stay in Kandy.

Day 4: Departure

- Travel back to Colombo (approximately 3-4 hours from Kandy).
- Depart from Bandaranaike International Airport.