

HIGHLIGHTS

- + You will never want to leave Bawa designed hotels Heritance Kandalama and Lighthouse in Galle
- + Photograph tea plantations on our spectacular train ride into the 'high' country
- + Pull up a bar stool in Galle Fort with its colonial ambience and UNESCO heritage
- + Visit Geoffrey Bawa's Lunuganga Estate and Bevis Bawa's Brief Garden
- + Stroll through World Heritage Sites at Polonnaruwa, Golden Temple of Dambulla, Sigiriya Rock Citadel and Kandy
- + Travel in a small group and make new friends
- + Relax – we'll take care of everything!

For a detailed itinerary, please visit:

www.rosstours.com/srilanka



TOUR LEADER
PAUL URQUHART

Paul Urquhart is an accomplished garden writer and has been the gardening editor of Australian lifestyle magazines including Better Homes and Gardens, Australian House and Garden, Home Beautiful and Your Garden.

Let us take you to the most beautiful places in the world.

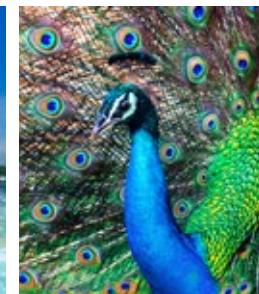
THE GARDENS OF SRI LANKA



I know you'll be dazzled by this secret tropical island, with a history that dates back 2500 years. Thanks to its colonial past it's a rich cultural mix of traditions, festivities and exotic cuisine. Enjoy!

Graham Ross

Graham Ross VMM, Founder



21 FEBRUARY - 7 MARCH 2019

Sri Lanka celebrates 70 years of independence; it's a cultural hotspot with a history of 2500 years. Ancient sites are World Heritage listed. Discover this ancient land with friendly locals, incredible flavours, highland tea, spice plantations, tropical gardens and elephants!

TO BOOK PLEASE CONTACT ROYCE OR ROSLYN



1300 233 200



travel@rosstours.com

Visit our website www.rosstours.com



MEMBER

ACCREDITED





ITINERARY

TOUR DETAILS

DAY 1 THU 21 FEB HOME TO COLOMBO

Meet your Ross Tour leader at Sydney Airport for our flight to Colombo. Late evening arrival and transfer to our hotel in the resort town of Negombo.

DAY 2 FRI 22 FEB COLOMBO

Enjoy a leisurely morning. Afternoon visit to see the first of many lovely gardens and admire the Geoffrey Bawa designed Parliament building. Welcome Dinner tonight.

DAY 3 SAT 23 FEB COLOMBO - KANDALAMA

Visit the Golden Temple of Dambulla, a cave monastery for Buddhists and Hindus. Check into the luxurious Heritance Kandalama Hotel for three nights, designed by Geoffrey Bawa.

DAY 4 SUN 24 FEB KANDALAMA

Sigiriya Rock this morning is a UNESCO world heritage site. Walk through the ancient gardens. Visit Popham's Arboretum, a planted forest to conserve the unique biodiversity of Sri Lanka's dry zone.

DAY 5 MON 25 FEB POLONNARUWA

This morning see the ancient city of Polonnaruwa with archaeological treasures from 800 years ago. Late afternoon safari in Minneriya National Park to see wild elephants.

DAY 6 TUE 26 FEB KANDALAMA TO KANDY

Travel to Kandy the last capital of the Sri Lankan kings. Stop in Matale a hill town famous for its spice plantations. Lunch included. Arrive into Kandy, visit the Temple of the Sacred Tooth, one of the great relics of Buddhism. Check into our hotel Cinnamon Citadel overlooking the Mahaweli River.

DAY 7 WED 27 FEB KANDY

The Royal Botanical Gardens in Peradeniya, originally the 'Royal' pleasure garden is encircled by the Mahaweli River. A guided walk to see endemic, indigenous and exotic plants. A city tour of Kandy this afternoon.

DAY 8 THU 28 FEB KANDY TO NUWARA ELIYA

Board the train for a scenic journey through rolling hills of

tea plantations up to Nuwara Eliya. Visit one of the oldest plantations to learn about tea production. Check into St. Andrew's Hotel, a former colonial country house.

DAY 9 FRI 1 MAR HAKGALA BOTANIC GARDENS

Visit Hakgala Botanical Garden established to experiment with cinchona bark used to treat malaria. Enjoy High Tea at the Grand Hotel built in 1828 as a holiday residence for the 5th Governor of Ceylon.

DAY 10 SAT 2 MAR NUWARA ELIYA TO GALLE

Onto Galle, a former Dutch Colonial town. Stop for lunch at Kitulgala where the movie "Bridge on The River Kwai" was filmed. Check into the minimalistic, elegant Lighthouse Hotel, designed by Geoffrey Bawa, overlooking the Indian Ocean.

DAY 11 SUN 3 MAR GALLE

Learn about cinnamon at Villa Mayurana plantation. Tour Galle Fort built in 1588 by the Portuguese then fortified by the Dutch in the 17th century.

DAY 12 MON 4 MAR GALLE

Appreciate Geoffrey Bawa's country

home, Lunuganga Estate. Built in 1947 with structures linking interior and exterior spaces, Lunuganga is a work of art.

DAY 13 TUE 5 MAR GALLE TO COLOMBO

Travelling to Colombo today with a stop at Bevis Bawa's 'Brief Garden'. Bevis was Geoffrey's brother, architect and artist. A private estate with cleverly designed spaces, alcoves and cloisters. His bewitching house has a simple Bawa aesthetic filled with artworks. Check into the Galle Face Hotel, built in 1864 on the seafront; it reflects the grandeur of the British Colonial period.

DAY 14 WED 6 MAR COLOMBO TO HOME

Geoffrey Bawa's Colombo townhouse is an introspective assemblage of courtyards, verandas and loggias, locked away within a busy city. Free time this afternoon. Meet up for our farewell dinner at the hotel. Late check-out then transfer to Colombo Airport for our flight home.

DAY 15 THU 7 MAR ARRIVE HOME

+ OUR TOUR INCLUDES

- Return group economy airfare Sydney / Colombo / Sydney
- Air-conditioned motorcoach
- Deluxe accommodation for 14 nights
- Breakfast daily, 6 lunches and 10 dinners
- Entrance fees to all gardens and sightseeing including Sheila's Garden, Golden Temple of Dambulla, Popham's Arboretum, Sigiriya Rock, Polonnaruwa, Matale spice garden, Temple of the Tooth, Peradeniya Royal Botanical Gardens, Hakgala Botanical Garden, Mayurana Cinnamon Plantation, Lunuganga Estate, Brief Garden, Bawa House.
- Escorted by Paul Urquhart

+ OUR TOUR COSTS

- Twin Share per person, land only \$6,795
- Twin Share per person, incl. air \$7,795
- Single Supplement \$1,795

+ DISCOUNTS

- Early bird \$200 Book and pay before 2/10/18
- Previous Traveller \$100
- Garden Clinic Member \$50

Tourist visa required for Sri Lanka, cost not included. All prices in Australian Dollars. All air taxes as at 1st Apr 2017. Price based on minimum 15 passengers. Departure from Sydney. Price from other Australian ports and New Zealand available on application. Group meals do not include beverages. Please refer to Ross Garden Tours standard terms & conditions. Ask us about other sightseeing and travel arrangements including pre and post tour accommodation, transfers, stopovers and other tours.