



KINGDOM LANKA EXCURSION

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071- 3482432

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Kingdom Secret Kiriella
Ratnapura

GEM MINING - Ratnapura



The island of Sri Lanka (aka Ceylon or Serendib) has a heritage for gem mining and trading that dates back 2000 years. Sri Lanka is a tropical island situated in the Indian Ocean, off the southern tip of India. Sri Lanka has earned its namesake as the 'Gem Island' or 'Island of Gems' (Ratna Dweepa), with its abundance of corundum gems, chrysoberyl and alexandrite, garnet, moonstone, peridot, spinel, topaz, tourmaline, and zircon.

ADAM'S PEAK - Lanka's Holy Mountain



Adam's Peak (also Adam's Mount; Sinhalese Samanalakanda - සමනල කන්ද "butterfly mountain", Tamil Sivanolipatha Malai, is a 2,243 metres (7,359 ft) tall conical mountain located in central Sri Lanka. It is well-known for the Sri Pada "sacred footprint", a 1.8 m rock formation near the summit, in Buddhist tradition held to be the footprint of the Buddha, in Hindu tradition that of Shiva, in Christian tradition that of St. Thomas, and in Muslim tradition that of Adam.

POTHGUL VIHARAYA - Polonnaruwa



Delgamuwa Rajamaha Viharaya is an important place of worship for all Buddhists of Sri Lanka as the sacred tooth relic of Buddha was protected inside this temple from the Portuguese for over 40 years. The ancient Kurahan grinding stone in which the holy tooth relic was hidden safely can be seen in this Delgamuwa temple even today.

SINHARAJA - UNESCO Heritage Rain Forest



Sinharaja Rainforest has been designated as a UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site, UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and also a Biodiversity Hotspot by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). All these titles are highlighting the importance of the forest reserve in terms of its exceptional biodiversity as well as its fragility. Birding in Sinharaja is particularly interesting since it is home to 95% of the endemic birds of Sri Lanka!

DELGAMUWA RAJAMAH VIHARAYA - Kuruwita



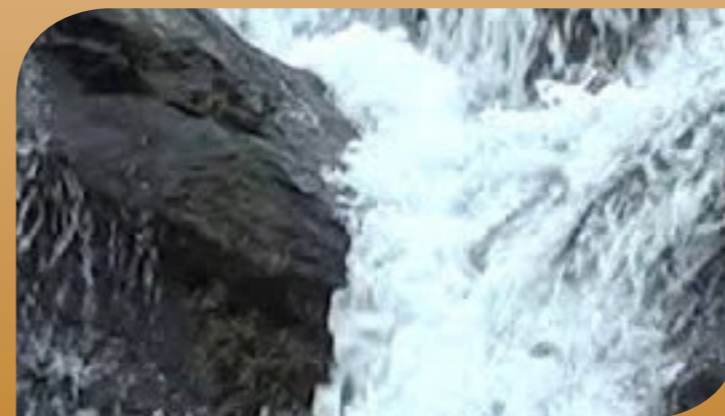
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MAHA SAMAN DEVALAYA - Ratnapura



The Sabaragamuwa Maha Saman Devalaya is considered the main Devalaya of deity Saman except for the Shrine at top of Sri Pada. The history speaks of a temple at Ratnapura area since the time of king Dutugemunu of Anuradhapura Kingdom, But the recent history starts from Dambadeniya period. A court Minister called Aryakamadeva had come over to Ratnapura to make a vow for gemming, and if lucky to build a Devalaya to keep God Sumana Saman's statue.

KIRIELLA FALLS - Kiriella



Kiri Ella Falls is 18m tall and 4m wide and cascades down from the Kabaragala Mountain (Alligator Mountain). Its white water is said to resemble milk when viewed from a distance, hence its name. Kabaragala Mountain is itself so named as it looks like an alligator's back. According to folklore, a king called Rajasinhe visited the fall and sculpted a horse from stone, which is said to signify that treasure is hidden in the area.