



SRI LANKA



2022 TEST MATCH CRICKET TOUR



AST

Australian Sports Tours

WELCOME

Australian Sports Tours is proud to invite you on tour to Sri Lanka in June and July 2022. The Aussies take on hosts Sri Lanka to contest what has inevitably become the even more coveted Warne-Muralitharan Trophy in a two Test Match Series, preceded by 5 ODI's and 3 T20 Internationals.

We have released a 16 day tour that takes in the two Tests held in Galle. In addition to this, we have also created 3 optional add-ons, pre and post tour.

Both tests will be played at the Galle International Stadium where Australia has won 2 of their 4 matches. Since our last Test in Galle in 2011, the ground has been somewhat of a Sri Lankan stronghold with the locals winning 12 out of their last 19 Test Matches here.

Sri Lanka is home to beautiful tropical beaches, cooler temperate rain forests and vast plantations of the world's finest tea. With a kaleidoscope of attractions, history, climate and geography contained within an island smaller than Tasmania, Sri Lanka is a tourist's dream. Highlights include the beach side town of Weligama, the UNESCO World Heritage sites of Galle Fort and the highest density of leopards in the world in Yala National Park.

All of these are enhanced by the combination of local hospitality, superb cuisine and a shared love for the game of cricket; a sure fire topic of conversation with any Sri Lankan.

This is truly a unique opportunity to support our boys and experience the amazing island country that is Sri Lanka!

We hope to see you on tour!

WELCOME FROM MERV HUGHES

Having had to wait six years for redemption after our crushing defeat in 2016, Australian cricket fans now get a chance to visit one of the world's most scenic and friendly countries.

AST's professional staff have once again used their immense local experience and knowledge to put together the perfect blend of cricket, sightseeing and five star hospitality. An extremely affordable place to travel, there isn't a local to be found that won't have an opinion on the outcome of this extremely important series.

Join me for Australia's much anticipated return to Test cricket in Sri Lanka and see a team hungry to maintain their dominance of the original and still the best form of the game.

See you in Galle!

Merv Hughes
AST Tour Host



TEST TOUR

HIGHLIGHTS

Tue 28 June - Sun 13 July 2022

- Hospitality match tickets including lunch for the 1st & 2nd Tests
- Quality hotel accommodation throughout
- Arrival & departure airport transfers
- Yala National Park safari game drives
- Weligama Bay resort stay
- Tour hosted by Australian cricketing legend Merv Hughes
- Two all-inclusive functions with Merv featuring guest speakers
- AST tour merchandise

\$5,490*

* twin/double share
Single supplement
\$1,800

PRE-TOUR ADD-ON OPTIONS

Cultural Sri Lanka

Thu 23 - Tue 28 June 2022

- Two nights Colombo including 5th ODI
- Two nights Dambulla including Sigiriya Rock & historic Polonnaruwa
- One night Kandy
- World-famous Kandy-Nuwara Eliya train through tea plantations

\$1,590*

* twin/double share
Single supplement
\$600

Extended Colombo

Sat 18 - Thu 23 June 2022

- Five nights Colombo including 3rd and 4th ODI's
- Colombo city tour & excursion

+\$800pp

POST-TOUR MALDIVES ADD-ON

Sun 13 July - Wed 16 July 2022

- Three nights resort accommodation
- Return flights from Colombo
- Hotel transfers throughout including Colombo

\$2,190*

* twin/double share
Single supplement
\$700

GALLE INTERNATIONAL STADIUM



Located in Sri Lanka's south-western corner, Galle International Stadium is magically situated beside the city's Dutch Fort and the Indian Ocean. It is one of the most picturesque cricket grounds in the world.

Australia has played Sri Lanka four times at the ground resulting in two wins, one draw and one loss. In 2016 we scored the 5th lowest score in the grounds history when we were bowled out for a paltry 106 runs in the first innings. The ground has been a Sri Lankan stronghold over the 37 tests played here, with 21 wins, six draws and ten losses with only Australia and England having a winning record against the locals.

STADIUM INFO

Test Dates:	Wed 29 June - Sun 3 July Fri 8 - Tue 12 July
Address:	Colombo Rd, Galle
Capacity:	35,000
Established:	1876
End Names:	City End Fort End



MATCH SCHEDULE

Tue 7 June	First T20	Colombo
Wed 8 June	Second T20	Colombo
Sat 11 June	Third T20	Kandy
Tue 14 June	First ODI	Kandy
Thu 16 June	Second ODI	Kandy
Sun 19 June	Third ODI	Colombo
Tue 21 June	Fourth ODI	Colombo
Fri 24 June	Fifth ODI	Colombo
Wed 29 June - Sun 3 July	First Test	Galle
Fri 8 - Tue 12 July	Second Test	Galle



YALA NATIONAL PARK

Yala National Park is situated in Sri Lanka's south-east hugging the panoramic Indian Ocean. Yala was designated a wildlife sanctuary in 1900 and then a national park in 1938. Ironically, the park was initially used as a hunting ground for the elite under British rule.

Yala is home to 44 varieties of mammal and 215 bird species. Among its more famous residents are the world's biggest concentration of leopards, majestic elephants, sloth bears, sambars, jackals, spotted deer, peacocks, and crocodiles.

YALA FACTS

Area: 980km²

Climate: dry most of the year

Average temp: 26.4 °C

Best time to visit: June to September

Location: 260km south-east of Colombo

Sri Lanka boasts the *big four* of wildlife including sloth bears, elephants, leopards and wild buffalo



WELIGAMA BAY

Meaning 'sandy village', Weligama has come to be one of Sri Lanka's top beachside destinations. Popular with surfers thanks to its consistent, gentle waves, Weligama is also known for its 'beeralu' lace making and traditional stilt fishermen. The perfect mid-tour break!



SRI LANKA 2022 TEST TOUR

// 28 June - 13 July
// 16 Days / 15 Nights

Tue 28 Jun: Galle

Our arrival transfers will meet you at Colombo airport ready for our drive south to Galle. After checking-in at our Galle hotel this evening we will have a welcome get-together hosted by Merv in anticipation of tomorrow's cricket.

Overnight: Araliya Beach Resort & Spa Unawatuna

Wed 29 Jun - Sun 3 Jul: 1st Test, Galle International Cricket Stadium

Each morning Merv will offer us his thoughts on today's cricket after which we will be transferred to the ground on our private coach. We have hospitality match tickets for each day of the cricket including lunch and beverages.

After the first day's play we will have our group dinner hosted by Merv and featuring some special guests who will share some of the

history of the Sri Lankan-Australian cricketing rivalry.

Overnight: Araliya Beach Resort & Spa Unawatuna

Mon 4: Weligama Bay

After a final game safari on the lookout for Sri Lanka's big four we travel to the pick of Sri Lanka's beach towns - Weligama Bay. Meaning 'sandy village', Weligama has come to be one of Sri Lanka's top destinations for budding surfers as the natural bay produces gentle consistent waves, ideal for anyone wanting to give it a go!

Overnight: Weligama Bay Resort

Tue 5 Jul & Wed 6 Jul: Yala National Park

At the conclusion of the first test we travel across Sri Lanka's south coast to Yala, home of Sri Lanka's second largest national park. We explore Yala on morning and evening jeep safaris.



Situated in Sri Lanka's south-east hugging the panoramic Indian Ocean, Yala was designated a wildlife sanctuary in 1900 and then a national park in 1938. Yala is home to 44 varieties of mammal and 215 bird species. Among its more famous residents are the world's biggest concentration of leopards, majestic elephants, sloth bears, sambars, jackals, spotted deer, peacocks, and crocodiles.

Overnight: Jetwing Yala (dinner included)

Thu 7 Jul: Galle

This morning we make our way back to Galle via a lunch stop at Dikwella beach. Protected by a coral reef and lined with coconut trees, the area has become a haven for laid back, eco-friendly travel.

We then return to Galle where Merv will run us through his thoughts ahead of the second and final test of the series.

Overnight: Amari Galle

Fri 8 - Tue 12 Jul: 2nd Test, Galle International Cricket Stadium

Each morning Merv will offer us his thoughts on the day's cricket after which we will be transferred to the ground on our private coach. Hospitality match tickets for each day of the cricket with lunch and beverages are included.

In the evening of day 4 we will have a dinner event hosted by Merv and some more special guests to reflect on play and look ahead for the future of the Australian team under the captaincy of Pat Cummins.

Overnight: Amari Galle

Wed 13 Jul: Transfer to Colombo International Airport

Our tour concludes today with a coach transfer to Colombo airport.





EXTENDED COLUMBO

// 18 - 23 June
// 6 Days / 5 Nights

We have two pre-tour options depending on whether you would like to arrive in Colombo on 18 June and attend ODI's 3, 4 & 5, or arrive on 23 June ahead of the 5th ODI.

Both options then visit Dambulla, Sigiriya, Polonnaruwa & Kandy before travelling aboard the incredible Kandy-Nuwara Eliya train and meeting the Two-Test Tour group in Galle.

Sat 18 Jun: Colombo arrival

Transfers will be provided to your hotel.

Sun 19 Jun: Hospitality tickets to 3rd ODI R Premadasa International Cricket Stadium.

Mon 20 Jun: Colombo city tour

Guided city tour.

Tue 21 Jun: Hospitality tickets to 4th ODI R Premadasa International Cricket Stadium.

Wed 22 Jun: Colombo excursion

Traditional agriculture & industries tour.

Thu 23 Jun: Colombo

Tour of Colombo test grounds.



Thu 23 Jun: Colombo arrival

Transfers will be provided to your hotel.

Fri 24 Jun: Hospitality tickets to 5th ODI

R Premadasa International Cricket Stadium.

Sat 25 Jun: Dambulla

Pinnawela Elephant Sanctuary & Dambulla.

Sun 26 Jun: Sigiriya Rock Fortress & historic Polonnaruwa

Guided tour of these ancient sites.

Mon 27 Jun: Kandy

Kandy city tour.

Tue 28 Jun: Historic Kandy-Nuwara Eliya Train

World-famous train through tea plantations enroute to meet up with the tour group.

Arrive in Colombo for the final ODI before visiting Dambulla, Sigiriya, Polonnaruwa & Kandy and travelling through the central tea plantations aboard the Kandy-Nuwara Eliya train.

CULTURAL SRI LANKA

23 - 28 June \\
6 Days / 5 Nights \\\

VISA INFORMATION

A visa is required for all Australian passport holders to visit Sri Lanka. Apply online at:

www.eta.gov.lk

All travellers must purchase mandatory COVID-19 insurance cover before travelling to Sri Lanka at:

<https://portal.pionline.lk/covidinsurance/>

All tour participants must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

FLIGHTS

All tours and package prices are exclusive of international flights. Please contact our office if you require assistance with booking your flights.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is not included in our travel packages or tours, however it is highly recommended as all payments made are non-refundable.



TESTIMONIALS

CLIENT TESTIMONIALS



"San (tour leader) & Merv were both fantastic, cannot wait for my next tour with them both. The actual work San does, a lot of people don't realise how difficult his job is. For me, everything was great, had a fantastic time."

"It's not hard to enjoy yourself on the tours and you really don't have to worry about anything except where the hotel bar is."



"I choose AST because they have been consistently professional and live up to expectations each time I travel with you. I have no reservations about recommending AST to my friends."



"Tim was very helpful and responded to emails promptly and attended to small details. It was good to have a 'go-to' person with all my queries - thanks Tim."

Merv was a caring host under his outward manner. His knowledge of cricket was a highlight and his general stirring along the way added to the enjoyment of the tour."

San was a very attentive tour leader who catered for our needs, his cheerful and friendly nature added to his professionalism. Appreciated the AFL scores."



"Tim Smith was very helpful. San Khoo did a great job and Merv Hughes was a great host. A very enjoyable trip"



AST Australian
Sports Tours

Book now and guarantee your place on our Sri Lanka tour
by visiting our website or contacting our office

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