

SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL TIPS

WELCOME TO SRI LANKA

Aitken Spence  *Travels*

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Dear valued guest,

Welcome to Sri Lanka – our paradise island! We at Aitken Spence Travels are delighted to have you with us. We're excited that you have chosen to explore our island, known for its fascinating wildlife, lush landscapes, rich culture, and vibrant traditions. We believe that the beauty of Sri Lanka lies not only in its natural wonders but also in the harmony between our people and the environment. As you embark on your journey, we invite you to experience the country with a commitment to sustainability and ecoconsciousness, ensuring that this paradise remains pristine for generations to come.

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The journey that we invite you to travel, is called a **Pure Path.**



Here's how you can travel the **Pure Path.**



BEFORE YOU GET HERE:



Pack only what you need to reduce your environmental impact

The heavier your luggage, the more fuel you burn for transportation.

Pack your clothes according to your travel itinerary

Sri Lanka is a tropical island, and has an average temperature of 30 °C in coastal areas and 15 °C in the central highlands; you'll also need clothes that cover your shoulders and knees to visit religious sites of interest.



Pack as little plastic as possible

use reusable and ecofriendly alternatives such as refillable water bottles, reusable containers and bags.

Don't bring harmful chemicals

Refrain from bringing or using toiletries, cosmetics and other substances which could be harmful for fauna, flora and natural environment.

Read, understand and respect the custom laws of the country
(www.customs.gov.lk).



Refrain from bringing any biological materials

such as animals, plants and/or their parts – as they may pose a threat to the island's unique biodiversity and to ecosystems rich in endemic species.

WHILE YOU'RE HERE:

- Respect the laws, norms and ethics of the country.
- Use electricity and water sensibly throughout your time here.
- Place litter in designated bins – this helps in the disposal and recycling of waste properly.
- Purchase local products or souvenirs from small time vendors wherever possible. Every purchase you make will immensely contribute to uplifting their lives.
- Refrain from buying products made from:
 - Protected plants or wild animals (such as items made of ebony, ivory, turtle shells, corals, shells of tortoises, skins of crocodiles, snakes, fishing cats, bears and Arthropod specimens)

Products made out of threatened flora & fauna species listed in the CITES Treaty (www.cites.org) and IUCN Red List (<https://www.iucn.org/our-work/region/asia/countries/sri-lanka>)

If you are unsure about this, please speak to your tour guide for clarification.

- Enjoy our rich cultural diversity while accepting differences, respecting beliefs and values of the local communities and cultures.
- Do not behave in any manner that causes harm or discomfort to any animal in the wild, or in captivity.

Child exploitation and sexual exploitation are punishable offences in Sri Lanka. If you come across any incident of this type, please report it to local authorities by calling 119 or 1929 hotlines.



WHEN YOU'RE INTERACTING WITH WILDLIFE:

- Respect the rules and regulations as well as guidelines given by the guides and trackers and imposed by parks.
- Respect the animals and maintain a safe distance during wildlife viewing. Sudden movements, loud noises, photo flashes, bright lights and laser beams disturb the animals. Do not corner or crowd the animal or disturb its natural behavior.
- Do not feed wild animals. Though you are doing this in good faith, this practice will pave the way to human-animal conflicts.
- Always stick to the defined paths and routes during safaris, nature trails, hikes and visits to archeological sites. This will ensure your safety as well as minimise the damage to the respective ecosystems and artifacts.
- Do not collect any plant or animal materials from nature or purchase any such specimens.

WHEN YOU'RE VISITING HISTORY:



- Respect the laws, norms and ethics of the country.
- Refrain from engaging in activities that may cause damage to archaeological sites – any damage is irreversible and punishable by law.
- Do not collect, remove or purchase any artefacts or parts of history from archeological sites (purchasing replicas or legal souvenirs is acceptable).
- Dress appropriately when visiting religious places of interest – wear clothes covering your shoulders and knees, and light in colour. You may need to remove your headwear and footwear to enter certain sites.
- Take photographs at religious places only if it is allowed. Do not pose in a manner that may be deemed disrespectful. If you have doubts, please consult your tour guide.

WHEN YOU LEAVE:



Please be kind enough to complete your feedback form. Your responses and suggestions will help us to improve our sustainability, service standards and quality.

***Leave only a positive impact!
Create wonderful memories to share with others!***





Thank you for your thoughtfulness and for choosing Pure Path during your stay. We hope your time in Sri Lanka is filled with unforgettable memories, new discoveries, and results in deeper connection with this beautiful island.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS:

Police Emergency **119**
Emergency Ambulance Service **1990**
Government Information Center **1919**



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