



**GALLE**  
*One day tour*  
**ITINERARY**



# GALLE



## Galle One-Day Tour Itinerary

**7:00 AM** – Departure from Colombo

Pick up from your hotel in Colombo

Scenic drive along the Southern Expressway (approx. 1.5 – 2 hours).

**9:00 AM** – Explore the Historic Galle Fort

Walk along the UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Visit the Galle Lighthouse, Dutch Reformed Church, and the National Maritime Museum.

Stroll through the charming cobbled streets, explore boutique shops, and enjoy the colonial architecture.

**11:00 AM** – Visit the Flag Rock & Ramparts

Enjoy panoramic views of the Indian Ocean.

Ideal for photography and learning about the fort's history.

**12:45 PM** – Lunch at a Beachfront Restaurant

Enjoy fresh seafood or Sri Lankan cuisine at a beachfront restaurant in Unawatuna or Galle.

Recommended spots: Wijaya Beach, The Tuna & The Crab, or Fortaleza.

**2:00 PM** – Visit the Sea Turtle Hatchery & Conservation Center

Learn about turtle conservation and see different species of sea turtles.

Located in Habaraduwa, just a short drive from Galle.

**3:00 PM** – Relax at Jungle Beach or Unawatuna Beach

Optional: Enjoy a swim, snorkeling, or just relax by the beach.

**4:30 PM** – Visit the Stilt Fishermen in Koggala

Witness the traditional fishing method unique to Sri Lanka.

Great for photography and learning about local fishing culture.

**5:30 PM** – Return to Colombo

Scenic drive back to Colombo via the expressway.

**7:30 PM** – Drop-off at Hotel





# GALLE

The guests will receive a warm welcome and be picked up from the hotel by our representative from Asia Tours & Events, and proceed to visit the following tourist attractions.

## **GALLE**



Galle is the provincial capital and largest city of Southern Province, Sri Lanka, and is the capital of Galle District. Galle was known as *Gimhathiththa* some time before the entry of the Portuguese within the 16th century, when it was the main harbour on the island. The term is understood to be inferred from the classical Sinhalese term meaning "port near the River Gin". It is credited that the town got its title as *Gaalla* in the native tongue as a result of the huge number of bullock carts that took shield within the zone, following the long slow ventures from farther ranges of the island. Galle reached the height of its advancement within the 18th century, amid the Dutch colonial period. It is the finest illustration of a braced city built by the Portuguese in South and Southeast Asia, depicting the interaction between Portuguese building styles and local conventions. The city was broadly fortified by the Dutch in the 17th century. The Galle Fort is a world heritage site. On 26 December 2004, the city was crushed by the enormous tsunami caused by the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake, which took place off the coast of Indonesia a thousand miles away. Galle is home to the Galle International Stadium, which is considered to be one of the foremost beautiful cricket grounds within the world.

## **MADU GANGA**

The first visit will be to the Madu Ganga. The Madu Ganga is a small waterway that begins in the Galle District of Sri Lanka close to Uragasmanhandiya and widens into the Madu Ganga Lake at Balapitiya. It is situated 22 miles (35 kilometers) north of Galle. On a remote island in the lake sits the Buddhist temple of Kothduwa.

The Madu Ganga wetland is made up of the larger Madu Ganga Lake and the smaller Randombe Lake, which are connected by two constricting canals. A complex coastal wetland ecosystem is made up of the estuary and the numerous mangrove islets on it. It has a significant ecological, biological, and aesthetic value because it is home to 248 kinds of vertebrate creatures and about 303 species of plants from 95 different families. Residents on its islets produce cinnamon oil and peeled cinnamon.



## **TURTLE HATCHERY**

A turtle hatchery in Galle, Sri Lanka, is a conservation center focused on protecting sea turtles and their eggs. Here's what you need to know about visiting a turtle hatchery in Galle:

Key Features of a Turtle Hatchery in Galle:

### 1. Conservation Efforts:

- The hatcheries collect turtle eggs from the beach to protect them from predators and poachers.
- The eggs are incubated in safe, controlled environments until they hatch.

### 2. Educational Programs:

- Visitors can learn about the life cycle of sea turtles, the threats they face, and the conservation efforts in place to protect them.
- Many hatcheries provide guided tours and informative sessions.

### 3. Interactive Experiences:

- Some hatcheries allow visitors to participate in releasing baby turtles into the sea, a memorable and educational experience.
- Visitors can see various species of sea turtles at different stages of their development.

### 4. Species of Turtles:

- The hatcheries often work with several species of sea turtles, including the Green Turtle, Loggerhead Turtle, Hawksbill Turtle, and Olive Ridley Turtle.

### 5. Location and Accessibility:

- Many turtle hatcheries are located along the coast near Galle, easily accessible from the city.
- Popular hatcheries include the Kosgoda Sea Turtle Conservation Project and the Sea Turtle Hatchery in Habaraduwa.

## Benefits of Visiting a Turtle Hatchery:

**Support Conservation:** Entry fees and donations help fund ongoing conservation efforts.

**Raise Awareness:** Learning about sea turtles and their challenges can inspire visitors to support conservation initiatives.

**Community Engagement:** Hatcheries often work with local communities, providing education and employment opportunities.

**Example of a Turtle Hatchery Near Galle:**

**Kosgoda Sea Turtle Conservation Project:** Located about an hour north of Galle, this project is known for its extensive conservation efforts and educational programs.

**Sea Turtle Hatchery in Habaraduwa:** Located closer to Galle, this hatchery offers informative tours and the opportunity to see turtles up close.

Visiting a turtle hatchery in Galle is a great way to support wildlife conservation while enjoying a unique and educational experience.

## Jungle Beach – A Hidden Gem in Unawatuna, Sri Lanka



Jungle Beach is a secluded, picturesque beach near Unawatuna, just a short drive from Galle Fort. Known for its golden sand, clear turquoise waters, and lush green surroundings, it's a great spot for relaxation, swimming, and snorkeling. Unlike the more commercialized beaches, Jungle Beach offers a peaceful escape with a tropical jungle vibe.

### Location & Access

Distance from Galle Fort: ~5 km (15-minute drive).

Access:

A short hike (10-15 minutes) through the jungle from Unawatuna.

Accessible by tuk-tuk or boat from Unawatuna Beach.

### Things to Do

**Swimming & Sunbathing** – Calm and shallow waters make it safe for swimming.

**Snorkeling** – The coral reefs near the beach are home to colorful fish and marine life. Bring your snorkeling gear or rent from locals.

**Photography & Sightseeing** – The jungle backdrop and views of Galle Fort make for great photo spots.

**Relax at Beach Cafés** – Small, eco-friendly beachside restaurants offer fresh seafood, tropical drinks, and Sri Lankan dishes.

**Kayaking & Paddleboarding** – Available depending on weather conditions.

## **Stilt Fishermen in Koggala**

One of Sri Lanka's most iconic cultural sights, stilt fishing is a traditional fishing method unique to the southern coast, particularly in Koggala, Ahangama, and Weligama.

### **What to Expect**

Fishermen balance on wooden stilts planted in the shallow waters near the shore.

They use simple fishing rods and catch small fish like herring and mackerel.

The best time to see them is early morning or late afternoon (4:30 PM - sunset) when they are most active.

### **History & Cultural Significance**

This method originated during World War II when food shortages forced locals to develop alternative fishing techniques.

It has been passed down through generations, symbolizing Sri Lanka's fishing heritage.

### **Photography & Interaction**

The stilt fishermen create stunning silhouettes against the sunset, making for fantastic photos.

Some fishermen allow visitors to try stilt fishing for a small fee.

### **Tips for Visitors**

Be respectful—some fishermen pose for tourists rather than actually fishing.

Bring a camera to capture this unique cultural experience.

Combine the visit with a stop at Koggala Lake or a tea plantation nearby.

