



***GALLE AND BACK (DAY EXCURSION)***

***Starting Location: Colombo or Negombo.***

***Time: Full day Excursion (Morning to Evening) and return to the same location.***

***EXCURSION HIGHLIGHTS: GALLE FORT, TURTLE HATCHERY, MADU RIVER BOAT RIDE, HIKKADUWA BEACH, MEETIYAGODA MOONSTONE MINE & FACTORY.***

**Tour Itinerary**

Leave around 08.00 a.m. from the hotel premises to Galle.

- Leave for Galle by highway, Visit the **Galle Fort**, in the Bay of Galle on the southwest coast of Sri Lanka, was built first in 1588 by the Portuguese, then extensively fortified by the Dutch during the 17th century from 1649 onwards. It is declared as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Tourist attractions are: Museums, Black Fort, Old gate with emblems of VOC and English, Light House, Belfry Anglican Church, Clock Tower, Leynbahnstrat (rope making st), Pedler st. Mosque (Dutch Reformed Church). Visit **Hikkaduwa Beach** en-route.
- Enjoy a **River Boat Ride at the Madu River** rewards you with an enthralling experience. As you sail through the rippling waters, watch out for water monitors, blue-eyed cormorants perched atop floating branches, fruit bats hanging asleep, upside down and the endearing sight of infant monkeys clinging onto fishermen as they sail across the river on narrow boats. You might even spot a few crocodiles and water snakes along your jungle cruise. The tiny rock island and temple in the middle of Madu River will be attracted.
- **Kosgoda Turtle Hatchery** is the one of the very few hatcheries where all the five species in the country make their nests. They are the Olive Ridleys, Green Turtles, Leatherbacks, , Loggerheads and Hawksbills. Don't forget to ask your chauffer or guide to get the experience of releasing some of these delicate creatures to the ocean on your visit! It fills up your heart too.
- Meetiyyagoda is famous for its **Moonstone Mines**. A guided tour will be conducted and you will witness the pitch of the mine and the filtering out of the precious stones and the workshops of the lapidaries. There after return to the hotel by highway.



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