



your ultimate travel and accommodation guide to Sri Lanka

## Dambulla - Sri Lanka Travel & Accommodation Guide

Dambulla Rock Temple is a magnificent gallery of Buddha images and wall and ceiling paintings not seen anywhere else in the Island. It is a complex of five cave temples with its origin going back to the first1st century BC.



Dambulla and its five cave temples are filled with Buddhist murals and many Buddha statues. Visitors must remove their shoes and approach the shrines bare-foot. The first cave is filled with the 47-foot-long recumbent image of the meditating Buddha.



In the second cave, there are 150 beautifully carved and preserved gilded statues of gods and Buddhas. The rock ceilings are painted in brilliantly preserved and intricately detailed patterns and images of the holy figures.

Dambulla is a good starting point for excursions to the [Cultural Triangle](#), [Kandy](#) and the hill stations of [Nuwara Eliya](#) and [Ella](#).

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## Dambulla - Sri Lanka Activities

As a part of Sri Lanka's [cultural triangle](#) Dambulla is close to the ancient sites of [Polonnaruwa](#), [Anuradhapura](#), [Sigirya](#) and the former capital [Kandy](#).



**Sigiriya**

Climb the amazing rock of **Sigiriya** with its impregnable palace fortress built in the fifth century and enjoy the magnificent views over the once magnificent royal pool, the throne, remains of the majestic palace, walk ways and gardens

**Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage**

**Pinnawela** is located West of **Kandy** on the Colombo highway and hosts the largest elephant orphanage in Sri Lanka, accounting for around fifty elephants at any given time.



**Polonnaruwa**

**Polonnaruwa** is the ancient capital of Sri Lanka from the eleventh to thirteenth centuries and the repository of outstanding ruins, frescoes and enormous statues of reclining Buddhas. The ruins of the old city are on the shores of Lake Topawewa, man-made during the reign of a twelfth century king—a huge task, when one considers it was accomplished with nothing but manual labor.



**Kandy**

**Kandy**, is Sri Lanka's second largest city and home of the Dalada Maligawa, one of Buddhism's most sacred temple grounds containing the palace of Sri Lanka's former king and the holy of holies, the repository of an actual tooth relic of the Lord Buddha.

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