



your ultimate travel and accommodation guide to Sri Lanka

Nuwara Eliya - Sri Lanka Travel & Accommodation Guide

Nuwara Eliya or *City of Light* is the tea capital of Sri Lanka at an altitude of 1889 m and is the most visited hill station of the island.

No wonder, since it means a break from the oppressive heat and humidity that surrounds the rest of Sri Lanka.



Nuwara Eliya was found by a group of British officers during the earlier part of the 19th century, who as the story goes, had gotten lost while elephant hunting. The British governor at the time, Sir Edward Barnes, was told about this little town and subsequently decided to take residence there, soon creating a health resort, which soon became internationally renown.



Nuwara Eliya is surrounded by a seemingly endless array of tea plantations populated by tea pickers who are almost exclusively Indian Tamils, who are distinct from the Ceylonese Tamils who live in the Northeast of the country.

Nuwara Eliya is an ideal starting point for day trips to tea plantations,

The center of Nuwara Eliya is a modern, busy city with markets, department stores and fast food outlets but the outskirts are like a journey into the past.

Colonial villas, rose gardens, a 18 hole golf course and country-club-styled hotels are the perfect background for a unforgettable stay.

The most stunning way to travel to Nuwara Eliya is by observation carriage which leaves either from Colombo or Kandy railway station. Advance booking is recommended.

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Kandy, Horton's Plains, World's End and Ella.

Nuwara Eliya - Sri Lanka Activities

Nuwara Eliya's attractions include golf courses, trout streams, Victoria Park and boating or fishing on Lake Gregory. Birdwatchers can see various species, particularly the Indian Blue Robin, Pied Thrush or Scaly Thrush. One of the distinctive features of Nuwara Eliya's countryside is the widespread growing of vegetables, fruit and flowers usually associated with temperate Europe. "*Little England*" has a somewhat incongruous conjunction of terraces growing leeks, beetroot and roses, interspersed with tea bushes on the steeper slopes.



Victoria Park

located in the centre of Nuwara Eliya's Victoria Park is always worth a visit. There are special flower shows in March - May and September - August. Victoria Park is open to the public daily from 8 am to 5 pm.



Hakgala Gardens

owned by the same family for three generations Hakgala Gardens stretches over 27 hectares. Formerly a cinchona plantation Hakgala Gardens today is famous for its roses and ferns.

Seetha Amman Temple

the Seetha Amman Temple is supposed to be build on the same spot where Sita, the wife of Hindu god Shiva was held captive by the demon king Rawana as told in the Ramayana epic. Hermann Hesse was fascinated by the location. So why not going up there and reading Sidharta in the perfect environment?



Excursions

Nuwara Eliya is a good starting point for 1/2 or one day trips to [Ella](#), [Horton's Plains](#), [World's End](#), [Adam's Peak](#) and [Kandy](#).

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