

Classicdestinations
A world of difference

ClassicSriLanka
A world of difference

Classic Wild

Our Brands

Classic Sri Lanka curates luxury journeys that reveal the island's cultural soul. Guests connect with artisans, spiritual traditions, and community-led experiences. With boutique stays and expert guides, each itinerary offers authentic, deeply personal encounters; ideal for travellers seeking meaningful, immersive exploration beyond mainstream tourism, in comfort and style.

Classic Wild specializes in luxury wildlife travel, offering expert-led safaris and rare species encounters. With professional naturalists, field-based intelligence, and customized expeditions, it delivers exclusive experiences in Sri Lanka and beyond. Ideal for photographers, naturalists, and adventurers seeking depth, conservation, and extraordinary access to the natural world.

International Representation in Sri-Lanka

Altour (Formerly Travel Leaders Network) is a premier travel management company with a vast network of agencies across the globe. Specializing in corporate, leisure, and luxury travel, it provides customized solutions to meet diverse client needs. Known for its industry expertise, innovative technology, and personalized service, Travel Leaders ensures seamless, high-quality travel experiences worldwide.

Reed & Mackay is a leading global travel and event management company specializing in premium corporate travel, VIP services, and bespoke event planning. With a focus on innovation, expert guidance, and personalized care, Reed & Mackay delivers seamless, high-quality experiences tailored to the unique needs of businesses and executive travelers worldwide.

Liberty International is a global Destination Management Company (DMC) with offices in over 65 countries. Known for its personalized MICE, leisure, and FIT services, Liberty offers local expertise with global standards. The group provides tailored travel programs for corporate and luxury clients, ensuring quality, reliability, and innovation across continents.



OUR PHILOSOPHY OF LUXURY

Luxury redefined with Classic Sri Lanka. Where we do not just focus on opulence, but ensuring meaningful experiences and connection, while simultaneously transforming the travel landscape.

“True luxury lies in the privilege of immersion. Discovering a destination in an exclusive, authentic and deeply meaningful way.”

— Classic Sri Lanka Manifesto

This manifests as:

- Unscripted experiences with living artisans
- Wildlife journeys led by academically trained naturalists
- Community-led culinary and indigenous heritage storytelling
- Small group and private travel for UHNWI and VIP travellers

OUR CERTIFICATIONS

ISO Certified

(ISO 9001:2015 QMS)

Safe& Secure Certificate (UNWTO)

Awaiting final certificate from Global Sustainable Tourism Council

OUR ACCOLADES



National Business Excellence Award (2024& 2025)



Best Web Award (2024)

Great Place to Work (2024)



Silver Award for Best Inbound Tour Operator (Medium Category) (2018)



Sustainability Awards- DMC (2024)



Sri Lanka Tourism Award – Best Adventure Promoter (2024)

OUR MEMBERSHIPS& ASSOCIATIONS

MEMBER

Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority

American Birding

Slaito

SLAPCEO

ALTOUR

WHY WORK WITH US

Established infrastructure with backing from a strong parent company – Expo Lanka PLC.

Dedicated operations team with “real life” travel experience (not merely a desk job) who craft and design curated itineraries.

Tour guides carefully vetted to go beyond subject knowledge, with traits of storytelling, humour, and relatability to clients taking precedence.

Unique selection of exclusive cultural and immersive experiences.

Wildlife specialists with in-depth know-how and scientific experience.

Adventure specialists with a dedicated field team including safety and medical attention for emergencies.



RE DEFINING EXPERIENTIAL LUXURY TRAVEL

At Classic Sri Lanka, our philosophy of luxury travel extends far beyond opulent villas, boutique retreats, and premium transport. For us, true luxury lies in the privilege of immersion—of discovering a destination in an exclusive, authentic, and deeply meaningful way. It is about unveiling Sri Lanka through a lens that captures not only its beauty, but its soul.

What, then, is the Sri Lankan way of life? At its heart, it is a sensory journey into a way of being—one shaped by warmth, simplicity, tradition, and resilience. It is found in the rhythm of daily life, in the meals shared with love, in the stories passed through generations, and in the creative spirit of our artisans. It is about living with grace, joy, and a deep connection to nature, culture, and community.

Guided by this ethos, Classic Sri Lanka has spent years seeking out and cultivating relationships with local communities, artists, and storytellers—individuals who are the living custodians of Sri Lanka's rich heritage. In doing so, we have curated a collection of deeply soulful experiences that stand apart from the mass-market model of tourism commonly found on the island.

Our belief is simple: an experience must have authenticity and soul. Rather than stage experiences for our guests, we take them to the source—to the heart of the story. It may be a workshop with an artisan reviving an ancient craft, or an intimate cooking session with a village family on the edge of the Sinharaja rainforest, where forest-to-table culinary traditions are still alive and thriving.

Every moment we create is original, unrehearsed, and rooted in the real.
These are not performances—they are invitations to connect,
to understand, and to feel. This is the true essence of
luxury as we define it: transformative, grounded
and unforgettable.





UNIQUE CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

Region- Colombo

Experience- "The Way of the Warrior"- Discover the ancient martial art of Angampora



Venture into the heart of Sri Lanka's martial heritage at an authentic Angampora school located in the quiet suburbs of Colombo, in Athurugiriya. This is one of the few remaining institutions preserving the ancient combat tradition of Angampora—a formidable martial art practiced for over a millennium and once used by Sinhalese warriors to defend the island from foreign invasions. Feared for its deadly effectiveness, Angampora was banned during British colonial rule, driving it underground for generations.



Today, this tradition is being kept alive by a dedicated trio of masters—Guru Piumal, Guru Athula, and Guru Lasantha—who passionately train the next generation in the philosophy, rituals, and physical discipline of this sacred art.



During your visit, delve into the spiritual and cultural foundations of Angampora, from its meditation practices to its ceremonial customs. Witness students perform mesmerizing demonstrations of hand-to-hand combat, pressure point strikes, weapon handling, and choreographed battle routines that showcase extraordinary precision, agility, and strength. For those willing, there is also an opportunity to learn a few basic self-defense techniques under the careful guidance of the masters.



This rare and immersive encounter offers not only a glimpse into a secretive and resilient martial tradition, but also a deeper connection to Sri Lanka's proud cultural identity.

Region- Colombo

Experience- “A Taste of Colombo: Culture Through Street Cuisine”



As twilight paints the skies over Colombo, prepare for a rollicking street food adventure hosted by none other than Brindley—a larger-than-life personality, chef, hotelier, and unapologetic “foodie” whose passion for Sri Lankan flavors is as infectious as his storytelling. With Brindley as your guide, this isn’t just a food tour—it’s an edible love letter to the city.

Your evening begins at the legendary Galle Face Green, where the salty breeze and golden horizon set the scene for your first bites: tangy pickled fruits, piping-hot prawn and crab wadeys, and other street-side treats beloved by locals for generations.



Next, climb aboard a tuk tuk and rattle through the kaleidoscopic lanes of Slave Island. Here, you'll dive into the sizzling, clattering world of kottu rotti—Sri Lanka’s unmistakable street food anthem. Brindley brings the dish to life, sharing its colonial-era origins and regional twists, all while introducing you to some of the best kottu spots only true locals know.

The final leg of your journey takes you to Hulftsdorp, a neighborhood pulsing with energy and the irresistible aromas of sizzling grills. Among the neon-lit food trucks, you’ll sample a daring mix of flavors—street classics like egg hoppers and spicy curries, as well as more adventurous delicacies like mutton brain and cuttlefish eggs, for those with a bold palate.



This is Colombo at its most flavorful and unfiltered—an unforgettable evening of culture, conversation, and cuisine, curated by one of the city’s most passionate culinary ambassadors.

Region- Ambalangoda

Experience- The Living Art of Rukada – A Journey into Sri Lankan Puppetry

Step into the enchanting world of Rukada, the traditional wooden puppets of Sri Lanka, whose name literally translates to “figure” or “doll.” Originating on the island’s southwestern coast, this art form began centuries ago with skilled mask-makers who eventually turned their talents toward storytelling through puppets. As their craft evolved, they were joined by musicians and performers, giving rise to a vibrant folk theatre tradition that captivated audiences at village festivals and religious fairs.



The experience begins in Ambalangoda, the heartland of puppetry, where you will be welcomed into the home of a renowned puppeteering family who have preserved this delicate art across three generations. Your host will introduce you to the rich history and craftsmanship behind Sri Lankan puppet theatre before inviting you to try your hand at making a puppet dance. Meet the family behind the art, hear their fascinating story, and witness their passion firsthand as they teach you a few foundational movements.

The experience culminates in a captivating private performance—an intimate puppet show brought to life by three generations of artists. It is a beautiful reminder that some traditions are not just preserved in books, but carried in the hands, hearts, and stories of those who live them.





Region- Ambalangoda

Experience- The Soul Behind the Mask – A Journey into Sri Lanka's Wooden Mask Tradition



In the coastal town of Ambalangoda, the ancient art of wooden mask-making lives on through generations of dedicated artisans. Using vel kaduru wood sourced from nearby wetlands, these craftsmen transform simple logs into vibrant masks used in ritual, healing, and dance.

You'll be welcomed into the home of a local mask-making family, where your host will introduce you to the cultural roots and intricate process of this tradition. Watch as the family demonstrates each step—from carving to painting—and hear their inspiring story of heritage and resilience. You're invited to try your hand at the craft, adding your own touch to this living art form.



This heartwarming experience offers not just insight into a timeless tradition, but the joy of supporting a family who has dedicated their lives to preserving it.



Region- Kandy

Experience- The Sacred Dance – An Intimate Encounter with a Living Artform



This exceptional experience offers a rare and privileged window into Sri Lanka's most iconic classical dance form—Kandyan Dance, by stepping away from commercialized stage shows and into the heart of its living tradition. Rather than observing a mass-scale performance, guests are invited to an exclusive visit to a traditional Kandyan dance school, where they will meet Guru Chanaka, a remarkably talented young master who earned the revered title of guru at an unusually early age due to his dedication, discipline, and artistry.



In this immersive encounter, guests will engage with Guru Chanaka and his devoted students in their authentic training space, gaining firsthand insight into their daily practice and personal stories. This is a unique opportunity to witness Kandyan dance as it is truly lived—passed down through generations with reverence and passion. Originating as a sacred ritual to appease the gods, the dance evolved into a symbol of royal heritage and national identity. Guru Chanaka shares the dancer's demanding journey, which blends physical endurance, spiritual grounding, and the mastery of intricate rhythms.



A defining element of this tradition is the awarding of the sacred Ves headdress—a crown-like symbol of full initiation into the art. This is not merely a costume, but a revered emblem of lifelong commitment, bestowed only after years of training and a purification ceremony.

This experience offers more than a performance—it is a meaningful cultural exchange that reveals the soul of the art form and the inspiring lives behind it, fostering a deep, personal connection to Sri Lanka's intangible heritage.

Region- Kandy/Matale

Experience- Lacquer Art of Matale – A Journey into the Swirling World of Laksha

Step into the vibrant world of Laksha, Sri Lanka's centuries-old lacquerware tradition, in an exclusive experience that takes you directly to its source. You'll be warmly welcomed into the home and workshop of Amila, a skilled artisan who has inherited and preserved this intricate craft through years of dedication. Set in the heart of the Matale district—renowned for its rich artistic heritage—this is a rare opportunity to witness firsthand the rhythm, color, and precision that define this time-honored art form.



Using a traditional hand lathe and natural resins harvested from native trees, Amila brings to life vivid designs in bold reds, yellows, blacks, and whites. These resins are carefully heated, dyed with natural pigments, and expertly applied to wooden objects—ranging from bangles and candle stands to ceremonial pieces. As you observe the mesmerizing spiral of color and craftsmanship unfold, you'll gain a deep appreciation for a tradition once practiced in royal Kandyan workshops, now preserved by master craftsmen like Amila.



The experience is immersive and personal—you're not just observing a demonstration, but stepping into the story of a living heritage. Under Amila's guidance, you'll even have the chance to try your hand at creating a simple motif using traditional tools. It's a captivating and meaningful way to connect with Sri Lanka's artistic soul, while directly supporting a local artisan committed to keeping this beautiful legacy alive.



Region- Kandy

Experience- Rhythms of Heritage – Discover the Art of Traditional Kandyan Drum Making



Venture into the quiet village of Kuragala, on the outskirts of Kandy, for an unforgettable encounter with Sri Lanka's living musical heritage. Here, you'll be welcomed into the home and workshop of Mr. Jayapala, a master craftsman whose family has been making traditional drums for generations—dating back to the time of the ancient kings.

In this immersive and hands-on experience, you'll witness a beautiful art form that has been preserved through skill, dedication, and now, the power of responsible tourism.



Mr. Jayapala will guide you through the entire process of drum making, from carefully selecting the right logs, chiseling out the hollow forms unique to each drum, drying and treating animal hides, to the final assembly. You'll discover the artistry behind Sri Lanka's iconic instruments like the Geta Bera, central to Kandyan dance rituals, and the Thammettama, a powerful twin-drum played in ceremonial ensembles. As the workshop comes alive with rhythm, you'll not only see how each drum is tested with traditional beats—but be invited to try your hand at creating your own.



This experience offers more than just insight into a rare craft—it is a powerful way to help sustain a centuries-old tradition, enabling artisans like Mr. Jayapala to continue passing down their knowledge to future generations. By taking part, you're not only learning the rhythms of Sri Lanka—you're playing a part in preserving its cultural heartbeat.

Region- Kandy

Experience- Written in the Stars – The Ancient Art of Ola Leaf Astrology

Step into the mystical world of Sri Lanka's Ola leaf horoscopes, where tradition and celestial wisdom are etched into palm leaves. In the quiet village of a timeless craft, you'll meet Mr. Seneviratna, a rare master astrologer dedicated to preserving one of the island's most revered ancient traditions.



Using dried and polished Ola leaves and a traditional stylus, Mr. Seneviratna intricately inscribes personalized horoscopes based on birth time, date, and star sign—a practice that has guided Sri Lankans for generations. You'll witness this age-old process firsthand and even try your hand at carving your own script onto an Ola leaf.

This unforgettable encounter not only connects you to a living legacy of astrological and literary heritage—it also helps support artisans like Mr. Seneviratna in keeping these endangered traditions alive for the future.



Region- Kandapola/Nuwara Eliya

Experience- The Forgotten People behind Ceylon Tea

Tucked away in the misty hills of Kandapola, far from the polished colonial bungalows and manicured plantations, lies a community whose story is rarely told. In this deeply moving experience, you'll step into a traditional Tamil estate workers' village—home to the descendants of Indian Tamils brought to Sri Lanka in the 19th century by the British to work the tea estates. Though their labor has sustained one of the nation's most iconic exports—Ceylon Tea—these communities have long remained on the fringes of Sri Lanka's social and cultural landscape.



While many travelers visit tea factories and admire the rolling green hills, few take the time to meet the people who pluck each leaf by hand, often in rain and wind, for modest wages. This visit offers a rare opportunity to walk through their village, engage with families, and witness daily life in its truest form—from women weaving jasmine garlands and preparing spiced curries, to children playing among the line houses and elders offering blessings at colorful temples. You'll gain insight into their customs, religious rituals, cuisine, music, and community values—elements of culture that are often overlooked in mainstream tourism.



This is not just a cultural excursion; it is an act of recognition. It brings light to a resilient people whose stories, struggles, and contributions deserve to be seen and heard. By visiting, you help support ethical, community-based tourism and take part in preserving a vital piece of Sri Lanka's living heritage—one that is too often forgotten beneath the label of "Ceylon Tea."

Region- Sinharaja Rainforest

Experience- Forest to Table with Ramani – A Culinary Journey in the Rainforest



On the edge of the Sinharaja Rainforest—a UNESCO World Heritage Site and Sri Lanka's last remaining stretch of primary tropical lowland rainforest—lies the quiet hamlet of Kudawa, where forest and community coexist in harmony. For generations, the people of Kudawa have lived sustainably off the forest's bounty, harvesting only what is needed: medicinal plants, herbs, seasonal fruits, and wild edibles that have nourished both body and soul.

In this deeply rooted "forest to table" experience, you'll be welcomed into the home of Ramani, a warm and spirited local mother who lives with her husband Wijepala and their children. After a guided trek through the rainforest—whether birdwatching or simply soaking in nature—you'll learn to identify various edible plants with your naturalist and local tracker, and gather a few seasonal ingredients along the way. Back at Ramani's home, she greets you with a refreshing glass of wild orange or freshly squeezed mandarin juice, before inviting you into her rustic kitchen.

There, side by side with Ramani, you'll learn to prepare a signature forest-inspired dish—perhaps her favorite, a delicately spiced curry made from the tender buds of the golden leather fern. She'll guide you through the art of Sri Lankan cooking, sharing the secrets of tempering spices, layering flavors, and transforming foraged ingredients into wholesome, flavorful meals. Lunch is a vibrant spread of seasonal curries crafted from wild herbs, plants, and even fruits.



This experience is more than a meal—it's a celebration of tradition, sustainability, and resilience. It offers a heartfelt connection to a way of life shaped by nature, and by joining, you support and empower women like Ramani who are keeping these ancestral practices alive through immersive, community-based tourism.

Region- Rathugala

Experience- Walking with the Veddah – A Journey into Sri Lanka's Living Indigenous Heritage

Venture into the remote jungles of Rathugala for a rare and deeply meaningful encounter with the Veddah—Sri Lanka's last remaining indigenous community. This immersive experience offers not a staged reenactment, but a genuine opportunity to walk alongside the Veddah people, gaining insight into how they live today—navigating the modern world while preserving their ancestral values, customs, and deep-rooted connection to the land.





Guided by tribal elders and community members, you'll explore the forests that have sustained their way of life for centuries, listening to oral histories, observing age-old practices, and learning about traditional knowledge passed down through generations. Visit Peella Kandura, a remarkable site where a subterranean stream disappears beneath ancient boulders and resurfaces in a natural stone-carved gutter—one of many secrets of the forest that the Veddah revere and protect.

Yet, this experience also sheds light on a powerful truth: the Veddah are no longer hunter-gatherers living in isolation. Today, they are embracing agriculture, building permanent homes, and ensuring their children receive formal education—some even reaching university level and stepping into leadership roles that bridge past and present.



Walking through their village, you'll see cultivated fields, modest dwellings, and a community in quiet transition—honoring their roots while forging a future.

This encounter is a profound opportunity to understand, not romanticize—to see the Veddah not as relics of the past, but as a resilient people adapting to the present with dignity. Through responsible tourism and meaningful exchange, you become part of a story of cultural continuity, mutual respect, and empowerment.

Region- Galle

Experience- “Dinesha’s Kitchen: A Taste of Southern Sri Lankan Heritage”



Step into the heart of the historic Galle Fort for an unforgettable culinary journey that delves deep into the soul of Southern Sri Lankan cuisine. Once a thriving hub of the global spice trade, the Fort provides the perfect backdrop to explore a food culture shaped by centuries of foreign influence—from Arab and South Indian traders to Portuguese, Dutch, and British colonizers.

At the center of this experience is Dinesha, a warm and charismatic mother of three, who welcomes you into her charming art deco-style home for an intimate, hands-on cooking class. The experience begins with a visit to the local market, where you’ll learn how to select the freshest produce and fragrant spices. Back in her semi-outdoor courtyard kitchen, you’ll prepare beloved southern dishes such as the tangy Ambul Thiyal (sour fish curry) and the sweet-sour Batu Moju (eggplant pickle), while learning the techniques and stories behind each recipe.



More than just a culinary workshop, this is a meaningful opportunity to support Dinesha in her mission to preserve and share the rich traditions of Sri Lankan cuisine. With over a decade of experience teaching enthusiastic food lovers from around the world, she has become a true ambassador of the island’s culinary heritage. Her dream is to take the story of Sri Lankan cooking to global audiences—one meal at a time. As you cook alongside her and enjoy the fruits of your labor in her peaceful courtyard, you’ll not only gain treasured recipes, but also a lasting connection to the people, flavors, and heart of Sri Lanka.



REDEFINING SRI LANKA AS A PREMIER WILDLIFE DESTINATION

When one thinks of Sri Lanka, golden beaches, ancient ruins, and lush tea plantations often come to mind. What is less known—but no less remarkable—is that this small island harbors one of the highest rates of biodiversity in the world. Home to charismatic megafauna such as leopards, elephants, sloth bears, and a stunning array of endemic birdlife and reptiles, Sri Lanka offers world-class wildlife experiences that remain, astonishingly, one of its best-kept secrets.

Classic Wild, the dedicated wildlife and nature travel arm of Classic Sri Lanka, exists to transform this perception—positioning Sri Lanka on the global map as a serious wildlife and photography destination. Unlike conventional tours that offer generic game drives, Classic Wild delivers meticulously curated, expert-led, and highly personalized safari experiences designed specifically for serious wildlife enthusiasts and photographers who value quality, exclusivity, and depth of experience.

What sets Classic Wild apart is its uncompromising commitment to excellence across every aspect of the safari journey:

Expert Naturalist Guides: Each tour is led by professional naturalists whose field craft is enhanced by academic grounding—many hold degrees or postgraduate qualifications in zoology, ecology, or biology. Their interpretations go beyond surface-level observations, offering guests scientific insight into animal behavior, ecosystems, and conservation contexts.



Specialized Safari Drivers: Our drivers are not merely chauffeurs—they are intuitive wildlife specialists, handpicked for their ability to read the bush, anticipate animal behavior, and position vehicles with a photographer's vision in mind, ensuring optimal lighting, angles, and unobtrusive proximity.





Real-Time Wildlife Intelligence: Through close partnerships with a network of local trackers, rangers, and regional informants, we receive up-to-the-minute field updates. This allows us to adapt and improvise itineraries in real time—ensuring guests are always in the right place at the right moment.



Seamless Behind-the-Scenes Support: Classic Wild's dedicated operations team works tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure every element of the experience is smooth, responsive, and flexible—allowing guests to focus solely on the wildlife and the wilderness.



Beyond the National Parks: While national parks remain central to our programs, Classic Wild ventures where few others do. We uncover hidden lakes where wild elephants bathe undisturbed, lead night drives through village backroads in search of elusive nocturnal mammals, arrange river safaris to spot giant saltwater crocodiles, or guide treks through remote rainforests to glimpse rare species like the Sri Lanka Bay Owl.



With Classic Wild, every safari is an exploration of the extraordinary. This is not tourism—it is a purposeful, immersive experience that blends science, storytelling, and conservation. For those who seek more than just a sighting—for those who crave depth, understanding, and once-in-a-lifetime moments in nature—Classic Wild is the definitive choice in Sri Lanka.

REDEFINING THE ART OF BESPOKE LUXURY TRAVEL

At Classic Sri Lanka, we curate journeys that transcend the ordinary—tailor-made luxury holidays that artfully blend the charm of Sri Lanka's finest boutique villas, elegant heritage hotels, and world-class resorts with immersive, soul-stirring experiences. What sets us apart is not just where we take our guests—but how we make them feel along the way.



Our guide Ramli. Ramli is the same age as my son Drew - 32. He went to culinary school and was a chef before becoming a guide. Guides can make the difference to your travels. Some individuals are good guides and some are stellar guides. Ramli is stellar. One of the best in our world travels. He is extremely intelligent, extremely organized, extremely knowledgeable and all served with a fabulous personality of humor and humility. I think you can say we absolutely love him and we are learning so much.

Quote from Lynette Husum- Luxury Client from Canada

Central to our philosophy is the belief that a destination's true essence is best revealed through human connection and compelling storytelling. To this end, we work exclusively with a handpicked team of guides—each selected for their exceptional ability to breathe life into the island's rich tapestry of culture, history, and nature. These individuals are not only deeply knowledgeable and articulate, but also bring warmth, wit, and genuine passion to every encounter. Their stories are not recitations—they are vivid, engaging narratives that resonate with modern travellers seeking meaning, context, and connection.





But what truly distinguishes a Classic Sri Lanka journey is the seamless fusion of authenticity and luxury. Our itineraries are crafted to go beyond surface-level sightseeing, offering guests rare access to the heart of Sri Lanka—its rituals, its rhythms, its people. Whether it's a candle-lit dinner in a centuries-old manor, a private encounter with a traditional craftsperson, or a sunrise walk through emerald-green tea fields, every detail is chosen to evoke the soul of the island in a way that is refined, personal, and profoundly memorable.



With this ethos in mind, the following itineraries have been carefully designed to showcase the extraordinary diversity of landscapes, cultures, and experiences that Sri Lanka has to offer. This is more than just a holiday—it is the Classic Sri Lanka way: a journey into the island's essence, curated for those who expect the exceptional.

OUR SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

Sustainability Is Not a Trend—It's Our Foundation.

We don't view sustainability as a checklist but as a **core brand value**. Every itinerary, partnership, and guest interaction is a step toward creating a **regenerative travel model**—one that leaves destinations better than we found them.



Our strategy for sustainable operations is informed by the Group's purpose and values; considers international regulations and best practices; incorporates good governance and sound risk management; involves developing and deepening of stakeholder relationships; and is aligned with the SDGs to support local development and address pressing global challenges

We are deeply committed to responsible tourism and environmental stewardship. We are fully aligned with the **Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC)** and have successfully completed our final certification audit, currently awaiting official accreditation.



Our Commitment to Sustainability: GSTC-Aligned & Community-First

At **Classic Sri Lanka** and **Classic Wild**, we believe luxury should not come at the expense of the planet or its people. Our sustainability practices are closely aligned with the **Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC) criteria**, ensuring that every journey we curate contributes meaningfully to **cultural preservation**, **environmental protection**, and **community empowerment**.

1. Governance & Management

- Sustainability goals are embedded into our operations from supply chain selection to community partnerships.
- We conduct regular audits of partner properties and service providers for eco-compliance and ethical practices.
- Training for staff and guides includes responsible travel and Leave No Trace principles.

2. Socioeconomic Impact

- We design **community-based tourism** that empowers locals:
  - Forest-to-table cooking with Ramani (Sinharaja)
  - Artisan revival tours in Matale and Ambalangoda
  - Veddah-led cultural treks
- Revenue-sharing with host communities ensures income generation and skill development.

3. Cultural Heritage Preservation

- We work exclusively with **living heritage holders**: mask makers, Kandyan dancers, drum makers etc..
- Our tours avoid commodified performances and instead foster **intimate, respectful exchanges**.
- We contribute to awareness campaigns and conservation workshops, especially in indigenous and underrepresented regions.

4. Environmental Stewardship

- **Classic Wild** follows strict wildlife-first protocols:
  - No off-trail driving
  - Quiet zones near dens/nests
  - Zero waste, plastic-free safaris
- We promote **low-impact, high-value travel**—prioritizing depth of experience over volume.
- Carbon offsetting programs are being introduced for long-haul travel, with optional CO2 credits for guests.

SIGNATURE SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

CONSERVING BIODIVERSITY

Initiative	Description
The Leopard Project	Conducted with Dinal Samarasinghe, this initiative uses responsible tourism to support leopard conservation and community education.
Small Cats Project	A pioneering nocturnal expedition to raise awareness and data on Sri Lanka's rarest felines—Rusty-Spotted, Fishing, and Jungle Cats.

Classic Wild, Sri Lanka's premier wildlife travel brand, demonstrates its commitment to biodiversity by sponsoring groundbreaking scientific research in the Yala landscape. Focused on the Sri Lankan Leopard and small cats, the initiative utilizes advanced technology to estimate population parameters and promote conservation. Recognizing the global decline of these species, Classic Wild emphasizes the importance of habitat preservation. The study, conducted in collaboration with international organizations and WNPS, aims to develop a comprehensive carnivore conservation plan for Yala National Park, a renowned tourist destination.

Initiative:
- Conserving Biodiversity Sponsored research for wildlife conservation in Sri Lanka.

Alignment:
- Contributes to UN Goal 15: Life on Land and 17: Partnerships for the Goals.



REFORESTING PROJECT IN BUNDALA

Empowering local communities, one of our group Expolanka Holdings PLC flagship projects is the Reforesting Project in Bundala, Sri Lanka. In 2019, the company adopted 600 acres of the Bundala National Park intending to replant 125,000 trees over five years. This initiative not only contributes to environmental conservation but takes on a holistic approach by contributing to the social well-being of the surrounding local community. The group goes beyond environmental efforts by actively engaging with the communities around this area as well as creating employment opportunities for local community members who reside near the park and upgrading the quality of education at the Bundala Primary School, which is one of Sri Lanka's oldest schools, by providing stationery and essential items to students.



Initiative:
- Adopted 600 acres, replanting 125,000 trees.

Alignment:
- Contributes to UN Goals 15: Life on Land and 17: Partnerships for the Goals.

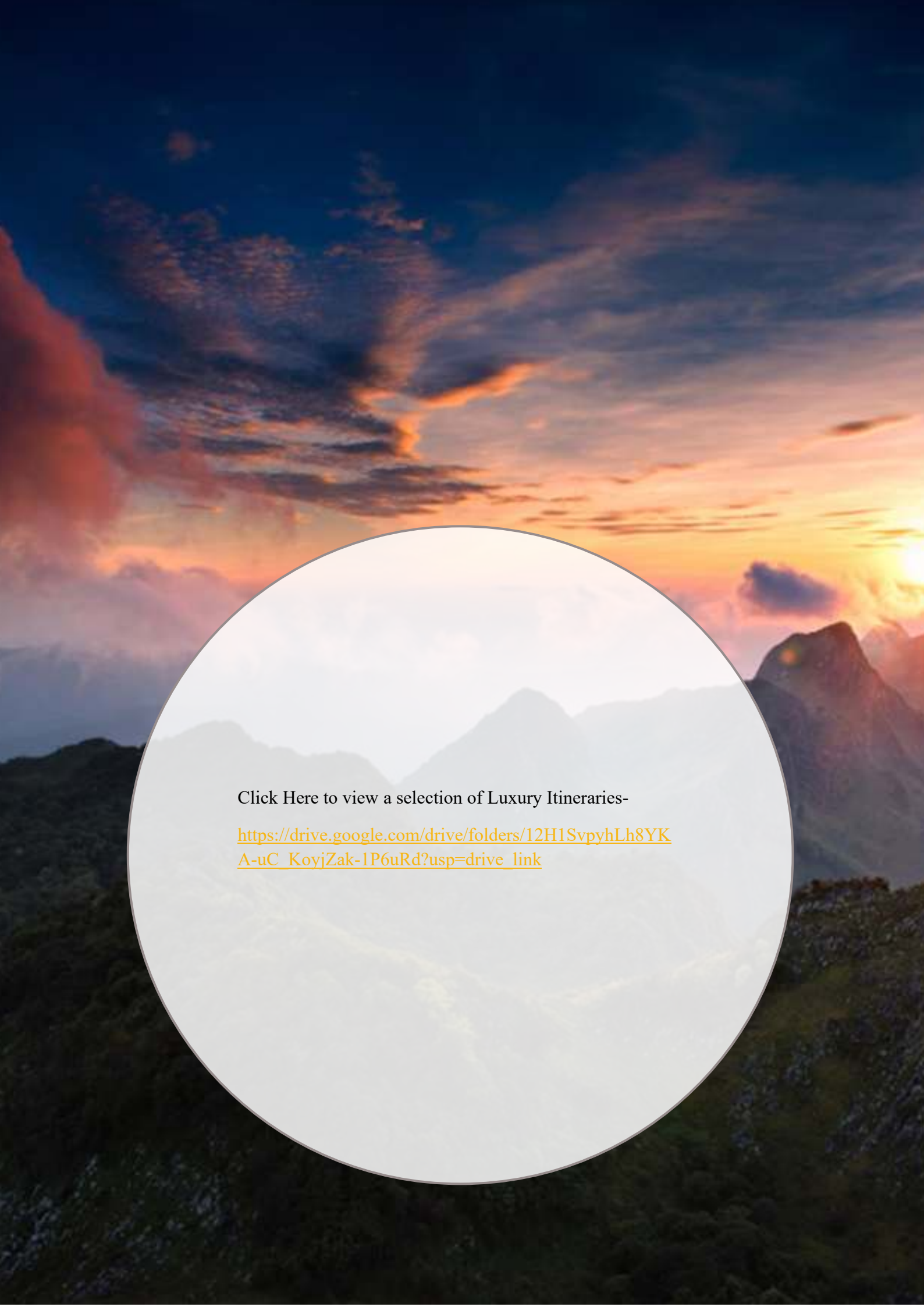
YAHAGUNA PADANAMA FOUNDATION



The Yahaguna Padanama Foundation, founded by our Group Expolanka Holdings PLC, strives to create a culture of giving. The foundation provides meals for up to 350 OPD patients a day; Strategically located around 6 hospitals the facility offers a healthy nutritious meal and a calm, clean space to ease their burdens. Beyond any corporate social responsibility, the employees across the group including Classic SriLanka volunteer their time to serve the less fortunate. While anchoring on active empathy as the cornerstone and understanding various difficulties people face, especially in this current economic landscape, the foundation continues to work towards bringing relief to those in need.

Initiative:
- Free lunch for individuals at the National Hospital.

Alignment:
- Contributes to UN Goal 2: Zero Hunger.



Click Here to view a selection of Luxury Itineraries-

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/12H1SvpyhLh8YKA-uC_KoyjZak-1P6uRd?usp=drive_link