

Bird Watching at Bundala National Park

Observe the Birds and Crocodiles Safari at the Internationally Reknown Bundala National Park

SLDT/1702/BW01



Why should you book this trip?

- It is a fascinating safari for those who love birds, mammals and crocodiles in a beautiful natural environment.
- Bundala National Park is renowned as a Ramsar site, a wetland of international importance, where migratory birds nests during their stay.
- One of the best places to see a large variety of both migrant and endemic birds in Sri Lanka.
- The best places to see both saltwater crocodiles and freshwater crocodiles who are large in size.
- A place full of diversity with elephants, most of which reside here permanently, with seasonal migratory herds arriving for short periods.
- The biodiversity of the park is prolific with 383 plant species being recorded here, six of which are endemic and seven endangered.
- Beautifully set park with excellent photo opportunities.

- Could perfectly combine with the dates you are in the southern region of Sri Lanka or when you are visiting Yala National Park.
- Opportunity to interact with the local fishing community.
- Guidance by an experienced birding guide/naturalist makes this even more special and inspiring.

Quick Facts

- Preferred starting time of the tour is Morning:6.00a.m. or Evening: 2.30p.m.
- Starting point: Gate entrance of Bundala National Park
- Duration: this is a half-day programme
- Arrival and departure transport for any location could be arranged on request for an additional cost
- Possible period - All around the year

You will meet



Keith

Keith is a young and hands-on naturalist who is bursting with enthusiasm for the work he does. Starting his volunteer work in his teenage years and having studied subjects pertaining to biodiversity, conservation and environmental degradation throughout his university career, he has stepped into the professional arena with a glowing portfolio of qualifications and field work. He is a dedicated animal handler, having worked closely with animals from a very young age, while he has also participated in and contributed to several research projects pertaining to matters of biodiversity.

Included in the price

- Naturalist
- Entrance fees
- Jeep cost
- Binoculars for bird watching
- Refreshments and bottled water
- Government tax

Exclusions

- Arrival and departure transportation
- Any extra beverages or food consumed
- Any tips to staff and guides
- Any personal effects not mentioned above

Tour in brief

You will first meet up with the Sri Lanka Day Tours crew and your designated naturalist at the gate entrance to the Bundala National Park. For the morning half-day tour, the starting time will be at 6 a.m. while the afternoon tour begins at 2.15 p.m

You will enter the national park with your naturalist/guide in a jeep where you will be able to spot several species of birds and other animals that call this natural haven a home. All you see will be professionally interpreted by our naturalist

You will be taken through the entire Bundala National Park, covering the wetlands, grasslands, forest patches, sand dunes etc

We will stop at a designated spot overlooking the ocean or a lake where you can get down stretch your legs and enjoy a cup of tea/coffee prepared by our crew

Finishing the Safari, either round 11 a.m. or around 6 p.m. you will be dropped at the park entrance

Important

- Suitable casual clothing for windy, rainy, warm weather conditions should be considered
- Insect repellents, sun-protection creams etc. are highly recommended
- Cameras/video recordersto capture those amazing moments

Bundala National Park

Covering an area of slightly more than 6,200 hectares, the Bundala National Park is located in the southern district of Hambantota in Sri Lanka. It falls within the dry zone and its climate can be described as hot and arid. The vegetation is predominantly of a dry thorny scrubland variety which provides a natural barrier to the wind and the terrain is flat with sand dunes that border the coastline.

Bundala features a series of lagoons which are an important habitat for wintering water birds. It is due to this fact that Bundala was declared Sri Lanka's first Ramsar wetland. The best time to visit the Bundala National Park is between August and April when shore bird numbers can reach as high as 20,000 with approximately 197 species, including several species of migratory waterfowl.

The park has also been recognized as an Important Bird Area (IBA) in Sri Lanka. Bundala is home to an impressive catalogue of avifauna including Lesser Whistling Ducks, Indian Cormorants, and Black-necked Storks as well as large water birds like the Grey Heron, Painted Stork and the Black-headed Ibis. These grounds are simply a birder's paradise. It is an internationally important wintering ground for migratory birds in Sri Lanka as well and was designated as a biosphere reserve by UNESCO in 2005. The migratory flocks that come here have become one of the park's main attractions.