



—Sri Lanka—
Day Tours

Sunrise dolphin watching experience and Bar Reef snorkelling – Kalpitiya

“Witness leaping pods of everything from Spinner dolphins to Bottlenose dolphins. Watch them frolic and swim alongside your private boat for longer, or head into Bar Reef for a snorkelling experience in Kalpitiya.”

SLDT/1702/WDW02



Why should you book this trip?

- Kalpitiya is perfect for dolphin and whale watching, as you do not have to head out too deep into the Ocean: the continental shelf is much closer than reported in admiralty charts, so much so, the shelf actually runs near and alongside the shoreline. This translates into being able to see many species of marine life - in just a short boat ride away from the shore.
- You will be led by trained English-speaking guides, who will brief you on everything you wish to know about the dolphins/whales you encounter.

- Watching dolphins leap, swimming alongside you and under your boat - is truly an unforgettable experience.
- The sea will not be as rough during this period as it is during the monsoon season and it will be easier to spot dolphins given good visibility.
- Among 'other things to do' in Kalpitiya, is the Bar Reef, the largest coral reef (307 square km) in Sri Lanka. Bar Reef can be reached by an hour's boat trip from Kalpitiya and serves as the ideal location for keen scuba divers and snorkelers. The beautiful reef, exceedingly rich in biodiversity, is home to an incredible variety of tropical fish as well as offering sightings of manta rays, reef sharks and the occasional sea turtle.
- The excursions will ideally commence at sunrise, and last about 2-3 hours.

Quick Facts

- Availability of Dolphin Watching at Kalpitiya Tour - daily departures from November to end April
- Meeting point: Kalpitiya Sri Lanka Day Tours/Eco Team, whale and dolphin watching operations centre
- Meeting time: Morning at 7.30 a.m. (most preferred)
- Duration of tour: Max. 3 to 4 hours
- Children 6 to 12 years of age will be charged 50%
- Maximum 6 passengers in a boat
- This Kalpitiya Dolphin Watching Excursion could be coupled with accommodation and many other excursions available in the Kalpitiya peninsula, such as scuba diving and snorkelling, among other water-based activities.

Tour in brief

- We will meet at 7.30 a.m. at our centre and after a briefing on the tour and safety precautions, you will be ushered to the boat.
- Kalpitiya is a relatively new destination in Sri Lanka gaining prominence especially for its large pods of Spinner Dolphins off the coast. They were mainly seen in a belt that ran parallel to the Kalpitiya peninsula which was commonly known as the Dolphin Line. But while Dolphin Watching in Kalpitiya is now one of the main attractions in Sri Lanka, there are other water-based adventures, for those looking to do so much more during their stay here.
- If you are in Kalpitiya between November and March/April, the conditions are perfect to catch a glimpse of diverse sea mammals as the waters remain relatively calm and enhances visibility.
- Among some of the other commonly spotted dolphin species are: Bottlenose, Risso's, Indo-Pacific and Humpback Dolphins.

Important

- Suitable casual clothing for windy, rainy, and warm weather conditions should be considered.
- Carry suitable footwear and headwear for outdoor activities. Insect repellents and sun-protection creams are recommended items to carry.

- All electronic devices should be securely carried.
- Standard Safety Precautions for Dolphin Watching:
- We run our whale watching trips as per the guidelines given by international whaling commissions <https://iwc.int/wwguidelines>
- Details of Boat
- Category : Fibreglass boat with a canopy
- Engine capacity : 40 hp outboard engine
- Length : 19.5 feet
- Width : 6 feet
- Number of Passengers onboard will be strictly limited to the seating capacity.
- Lifejackets will be provided to each and every client and must be worn throughout the tour.
- It is mandatory that clients adhere to all safety rules given by the crew.
- Please take precautionary measures recommended by your doctor if you are prone to seasickness.
- Please Note:
- There is a high probability of sighting dolphins in Kalpitiya, along with whales.
- We endeavour our best to find them on every single dolphin watching excursion - for you. However, on some days, even with our best efforts, it is impossible for us to sight them.
- Do not feed any wild animals (Yes, they are wild). Swimming near your boat doesn't mean they want your food.
- Do not compel your guide/boatman to steer the boat too close to the dolphins and other sea animals, as it may cause injury to them or be fatal for your safety.

Included in the price

- Services of a local boatman/ skipper
- Boat Fees
- Entrance fees
- Life jackets
- Bottled water

Exclusions

- Transportation to/from location, which could be arranged on request (for an additional fee)
- Optional activity costs
- Any personal effects not mentioned in this description
- Tips for the staff