

Rosa and Seven's wonderful experience of Sri Lanka.

Where to start? Our month in Sri Lanka was wild ride from beginning till the last second. We tried living the local lifestyle, eating lots of rice and curry, taking the bus around the island, visiting markets with fresh fruit, fish, spices and tea, taking walks around the most beautiful temples we've ever seen, drinking coconut juice, negotiating with tuktuk drivers and talking to lots of people because they were all very friendly and interesting. The room we stayed in was simple but clean and we had all we needed to live a simple lifestyle. The most beautiful thing about our mornings was that we would drink tea and see little monkeys playing around outside on our balcony. We shared the office with a lovely old couple who liked taking care of us and made sure we were doing fine. They gave us lots of fresh fruit and little desserts.





We enjoyed our time helping out at the preschool, giving computer lessons, doing arts and crafts, our conversations with the teachers, the celebration at the school of the Poson Poya Festival, learning more about the culture and traditions and the local breakfast that we got from them every morning. During our computer lessons with the senior class all of the children were extremely excited and very eager to learn. We had a lot of fun teaching them and playing around with programs like Paint and Word. During the week we were at school in the mornings, but during the weekend we were free to do whatever we liked.



So our first weekend we decided to visit one of the beautiful national parks Sri Lanka has to offer, Udawalawe National Park, which is famous for its wildlife like elephants and leopards.

We stayed at a guesthouse called Secret River Side Safari Lodge, it was very affordable and we enjoyed a lovely breakfast there too. We woke up around 5am for our safari through the park in a jeep and we had an amazing time spotting the wildlife.



The next weekend we stayed in Thalpe because we had a special invitation from our friends at Sugar Beach, apparently they were planning a party with lots of people from all around the world. We enjoyed our time there and danced all night with all of our new friends.

We liked going to Sugar Beach a lot because it's right across the street from the office where we were staying, so after school we would get lunch there and enjoy a cocktail next to the refreshing pool. The other spot we liked to go was Wijaya beach, with lovely sunsets and lots of turtles to spot in the sea.



Our last free weekend we decided to do something even more unforgettable. We heard a lot about the beautiful town of Ella and everyone we spoke to recommended us to go there. So we took a bus and we drove through the crazy landscape through the inland of Sri Lanka. We decided to spend a couple of days in Ella first and we took a beautiful walk over the train-rails from Ella's train station to the Nine Arch Bridge. After that we climbed Little Adam's Peak, with beautiful views over the mountains.





From Ella we wanted to take the train to Kandy, because we heard it's one of the most beautiful train rides in the world and very popular for backpackers. We loved it and enjoyed all the snacks we got to try on there too.

We were only in Kandy for 1 night, so we decided to visit the Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic since we heard it was very big and impressive so we had to see it. We spent almost 3 hours just wandering out and there was so much to see. It was very breathtaking and we learned a bit more about the religion.



The weekend after that we were flying home to Amsterdam, so we had to say our goodbyes and pack up our bags and after a long journey we made it home. We had an amazing experience and can't wait till the next opportunity we get to travel around the world and to be able to help people in different countries.