

# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION SRI LANKA

## PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Your passport needs to be valid for **at least six (6) months** after your journey ends, and should have a minimum of one (1) blank visa page for entry and exit stamps.

**An Electronic Travel Authority visa (ETA) is required for U.S. and Canadian passport holders for entry into Sri Lanka and must be obtained prior to departure.** To apply for an ETA visa, visit [www.eta.gov.lk/slvisa](http://www.eta.gov.lk/slvisa). The current fee is USD \$35 for a double-entry visa, that is valid for 30 days (subject to change without notice.) Read and follow all instructions carefully to ensure a smooth arrival in Sri Lanka.

If you are asked to provide contact information for your local tour operator, please use:

### **ABERCROMBIE & KENT SRI LANKA**

17th level, Access Towers  
278/4, Union Place  
Colombo 02  
Sri Lanka  
Telephone: +94 115 22 6000  
Emergency Telephone: +94 77 002 0770

ETA visas currently require pre-approval and pre-payment to process. At the time of application, your visa will remain in a 'pending status' and you will receive a visa reference number. Please provide this visa reference to your A&K Travel Consultant who will work with our local office in Sri Lanka to arrange your pre-approval.

Our partner VisaCentral offers easy, efficient U.S. passport and visa processing. Visit them online at [visacentral.com/abercrombiekent](http://visacentral.com/abercrombiekent) or call 844 823 1224 and reference A&K's account number 73001. Service fees apply.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

## REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO COVID-19

Visit the U.S. Department of State at [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov) or the Government of Canada at [travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories](http://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories) for comprehensive and up-to-date country entry requirements as well as information for onward travel.

### Entry Requirements

The following are the current COVID-19 screening requirements for entry into Sri Lanka for U.S. and Canadian residents. Requirements are subject to change.

- All travellers must present an original COVID-19 vaccination certificate indicating full vaccination completed at least 14 days prior to arrival. The current approved vaccines are Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca and Janssen (Johnson & Johnson). Children ages 11 and under are exempt from this requirement when travelling with their vaccinated parents.
- All travellers must provide printed, documented proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours prior to departure from the first embarkation point. The test must be conducted by a certified medical practitioner and must have the name and signature of the practitioner who conducted the test. Any person failing to present a negative COVID-19 PCR

test result will not be allowed to enter the country. Children under the age of two are exempt from this requirement.

- All travellers are required to purchase local health insurance covering health and other expenses related to COVID-19. The cost is \$12 per person and it may be purchased at the following link: [www.visitsrilanka.gov.lk](http://www.visitsrilanka.gov.lk).
- All travellers must complete and submit a “Health Declaration Form” which will be distributed upon arrival or can be downloaded here: <https://www.srilanka.travel/helloagain/>

#### Requirements for Returning Home or Onward Travel

A&K will arrange COVID-19 PCR testing during your time in Sri Lanka. The current cost for local testing is USD \$40 (subject to change) and can be paid by credit card or cash in US dollars. Results are typically provided within 24-48 hours. Additional costs may apply at select locations to cover the transportation of medical staff to administer tests. Rapid antigen testing is also available in Negombo and Colombo at an additional expense.

#### Guests returning to the United States

Before boarding a flight to the United States, all travellers are required to show printed or electronic proof of a negative COVID-19 viral test (PCR or rapid antigen) result taken no more than one (1) day before travel, or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 in the last 90 days.

For up-to-date details and FAQs visit [Requirement for Proof of Negative COVID-19 Test or Documentation of Recovery from COVID-19 | CDC](#). Be sure to check state COVID-19 entry requirements, as they may vary.

#### Guests returning to Canada

All travellers, including Canadian passport holders, must provide printed or electronic proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken within 72 hours of boarding their flight to Canada. Additional information can be found at [travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories](http://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories).

Note all guests with flights connecting through and/or continuing to other countries should check the specific COVID-19 entry requirements.

#### VACCINATIONS

A yellow fever vaccination is only required to enter Sri Lanka if you are arriving from, or have transited through, a yellow fever-endemic area in South America or Africa. The CDC and WHO each provide a current list of all affected countries. If vaccination for yellow fever is necessary, you must carry an International Certificate of Vaccination provided by your physician; you may be denied entry without it. If your physician advises against receiving the vaccination because of your personal medical history, he or she can provide you with the necessary documentation for the country/countries you are visiting.

#### STAY HEALTHY ON THE ROAD

In accordance with local regulations, face masks must be worn during any indoor public activities when physical distancing of at least 6 feet (2 meters) cannot be maintained. We encourage you to bring your own masks; a supply will be on hand where needed. Note all protocols are subject to change in accordance with relevant guidelines, local regulations and conditions.

#### CASH & CREDIT CARDS

Cash transactions can generally be made in either U.S. dollars or local currency, though some smaller shops may require payment in Sri Lankan rupees. U.S. dollars should be recently issued bills in smaller denominations. Major credit cards are widely accepted for goods and services. Access to ATM machines is widespread in cities and towns such as Colombo and Kandy but may be limited in rural areas.

## PACKING LIST

Please use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to collect and manage your luggage for you.

### Safe Travel Essentials

Be sure to bring personal protective equipment (PPE), including face masks, travel-sized hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, facial tissues and disinfecting wipes or spray.

### Clothing

Choose versatile, casual clothing that can be layered if the weather requires. Smart casual attire is appropriate for evenings. Formal clothing is not necessary.

Temples and other religious sites require modest dress to enter. Guests are advised to pack clothing that covers knees, shoulders, and upper arms for select visits. You may be required to remove shoes when entering sacred sites.

- Casual slacks
- Walking shorts
- Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses
- Long sleeve shirts or blouses
- Sweater or lightweight jacket
- Long comfortable skirts for women
- Comfortable walking shoes with traction
- Lightweight raincoat or poncho
- Brimmed hat for sun protection
- Sleepwear
- Personal garments
- Socks
- Swimwear/cover-up
- Foldable umbrella

### Other Recommended Items

- Sunglasses
- Sun block / Insect repellent
- Simple first-aid kit
- Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)
- Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses
- Smartphone
- Charging cables for electronics
- Global travel adapter

### Optional Items

- Small LED flashlight
- Foldable walking stick
- Lightweight binoculars
- Small daypack or fanny pack

Laundry service is available at most hotels and dry cleaning is available in larger cities. Check costs and return times before using these services.

## TIPPING GUIDELINES

While decisions regarding tipping rest entirely with you, we suggest the following gratuities (noted in U.S. dollars).

	<b>Tailor Made Journeys</b>
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Local Guides	\$20 per person, per day (full day)
Drivers	\$10 per person, per day (full day)
Airport Transfer Drivers	\$5 per person, per transfer
Hotel Porters	\$2 per bag
Housekeepers	\$2 per person, per night
Included Meals	Included
Restaurants or Room Service on Own	10-15% unless already added