



GEM TRAILS

Gem Heritage, Culture & Community Encounters

05-07 Days



hello@niceandcurrytravels.com

Package Includes

- Accommodation at a 3 or 4-star hotel
- Full board meals - breakfast, lunch, and dinner
- Welcome Package
- Private transportation & guided transfers
- Visits to gem mines in Ratnapura, Balangoda & other areas
- Conversations with local miners, cutters & gem traders
- Workshops on gem history, ethical sourcing & trade sustainability
- Guided visits to cultural landmarks, temples & rural villages

Ads-on (depending on duration):

- Jewellery design class
- Gem market walk-through
- Seminar on ethical gem trading
- White Water rafting & river trekking
- Historical Visits to Balangoda Man Cave

Locations & Destinations

- Ratnapura
- Balangoda
- Belihul Oya
- Local temples & village centers

Not Included

- International airfare
- Personal expenses & tips
- Travel insurance
- Alcoholic beverages



Overview

Step into Sri Lanka's rich gem heritage with this curated journey into the heart of the island's mining and trading communities. From the riverbanks of Ratnapura to the moonstone mines of Balangoda, you'll gain rare access to a world few travelers see.

This is not just about gemstones — it's about people, tradition, and sustainability. Our tours are ideal for small groups, learning programs, and conscious travelers who want more than a souvenir. Combine hands-on learning with cultural depth and real connection.

Why Choose a Gem Tour?



Learn about traceability, ethical trade, and local craftsmanship



Discover how gems are valued, cut, and polished



Meet the communities who keep Sri Lanka's gem heritage alive



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Sample Activities / Itinerary Highlights



Gem Mine Visit



River Trekking



Jewelry Making Class



Gem Lapidary



Balangoda Man



Gem Workshop

Sample Itinerary

4 Nights / 5 Days

Day 1 – Arrival, orientation session, welcome dinner

Day 2 – Visit to Ratnapura mines, meet local miners, ethics workshop

Day 3 – Drive to Balangoda, cutting demo & trader meetup

Day 4 – Explore moonstone mine, jewellery add-on

Day 5 – Morning reflection, cultural site, departure



Accommodation



Accommodation can be provided based on group preference, with options ranging from charming 3-star guesthouses to comfortable 4-star boutique hotels. All recommended stays offer modern amenities, clean en-suite bathrooms, air conditioning or fans, and thoughtful hospitality.



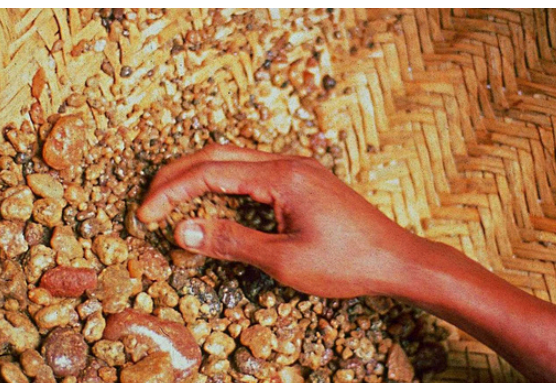
Many rooms offer scenic views of surrounding hills or rivers, and select properties include pools, in-house dining, and lush garden settings — perfect for groups seeking a balance between exploration and relaxation.

Practical Info

- Location: Ratnapura, Balangoda & surrounding areas
- How to get there: 2.5–4.5 hrs from Colombo depending on route
- Best season: Year-round
- Cash is preferred in rural areas
- Wear enclosed shoes for mine visits; sun/rain protection recommended

Group Info & Pricing

- Duration: 5–7 Days (flexible)
- Group Size: 4–16 people
- From: USD 1,000 onwards per person
- **Special Rates: discounts for groups of 10+ and agent commissions**



READY TO DISCOVER THE STORIES BEHIND THE STONES?

Travel with purpose. Connect with communities.
Experience the gem trade beyond the showroom.

