

Khiri Travel Goes Deep and Personal on Sri Lanka



With new in-country tours, DMC Khiri Travel has put people ahead of place to showcase the unique complexities and variety of Sri Lanka as a travel destination

Local experts and insights: vibrant market places, discovering 'Indiana Jones' places in the Cultural Triangle with Nerina, experiencing the back streets of Colombo with Rashan, and finding out about Tamil culture in the north. (Download images and this release in Word & Text formats at <https://app.box.com/s/dqsl49dpdqkzz5a0yipkiry6gpyzy90m>)

Khiri Travel Sri Lanka has put together a variety of destination experiences based on the principle that meeting insightful, knowledgeable people not only enhances the destination experience, it defines it.

Created by Khiri Travel Sri Lanka, general manager, Gonzalo Gil Lavedra, six new experiences introduce guests to local personalities who explain key facets of Sri Lanka society — archaeology, food, history, the differences between Tamil and Sinhalese culture, and more.

Khiri Travel has created the new meetings based around local people with a passion for unique aspects of life in Sri Lanka. They include an archaeologist, a Colombo street food expert, a Tamil native of Jaffna who has lived through civil war, a keeper of a garrison cemetery (with many tales to tell), an art scene expert in Colombo, and a leading Sri Lankan-Japanese chef who prepares a private dinner for Khiri clients.

For example, archaeologist Nerina takes guests to two sites in the Cultural Triangle that few tourists visit: Kaludiya Pokuna and Ritigala, which is an ancient meditation site surrounded by forest and used as a mediation retreat by monks for over 2,000 years. Even today, the calm is uninterrupted with virtually no tourists. Gil Lavedra says visiting the area is evocative of an "Indiana Jones experience".

In the capital, Khiri guests can meet Rashan, a life-long Colombo resident from a modest background. Rashan will lead a guided walk through the back streets of the city to reveal vibrant areas such as Pettah market, Slave Island and possibly a pooja ceremony at a Hindu temple. For many, a highlight is sampling kottu roti, a local favourite street dish.

"To fully appreciate the subtleties of a destination Khiri Travel Sri Lanka believes in getting to close to people," says Gil Lavedra. "Each of our special hosts has the spirit of Sri Lanka within them. Khiri guests tell us it's their privilege to walk and talk with such insightful guides."

Gil Lavedra says the meetings and trips with the special insight hosts last for a few hours to half day or a day. The engagements can be added in to any Khiri Travel itinerary depending on the interests of the client.

For further information on Khiri Travel Sri Lanka's special insight hosts email gonzalo@khiri.com. Tel: +94 (77) 0847972. Or visit the Sri Lanka pages on Khiri.com.

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About Khiri Travel

Since 1993, Khiri Travel has won awards and earned a reputation as a destination management company dedicated to working with select tour operators to provide quality leisure travel experiences across Asia. With 16 offices in Thailand, Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and the Maldives, Khiri Travel's entrepreneurial associates craft innovative itineraries that reflect their passion for authentic, local and sustainable experiences. Visit khiri.com.

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