

# Cycle Tours from Jungle Hideaway

	Distance (km) (Round trip)	Duration (hrs)	Suggested departure	Cost for 2 persons (USD)	Cost – each additional person (USD)
<b>1.To Pahala Thalkote and Halmilla wewa</b>	8km	1 – 2 hrs	6.30am or 4.00 pm	30	10
<b>2.Around Pidurangala and the Sigiriya Moat</b>	6.5km	1hr.	6.30am or 4.30 pm	30	10
<b>3.Tanks –Kayanwela wewa, Rangirigama wewa, Palutaawa wewa and along Mahaweli canals</b>	26.7km	3 – 4 hrs	6.30am	40	15
<b>4.To Audangawa wewa (km), and Nagalawewa Viharaya</b>	24.8km	4 – 5 hrs	7.00am	40	15
<b>5.To Kaludiya Pokuna, Thimbiritta wewa and Kumbukkandanwela wewa (km) and along Mahaweli canals</b>	35.1km	4– 5 hrs	7.00am	50	20
<b>6.Back roads of Sigiriya (Trail # 5)</b>	12.6km	2– 3 hrs	7.00am	35	10
<b>7. Sigiriya moat and Sigiriya rock inclusive of a guided tour of Sigiriya</b>	6.5km	2- 4 hrs	6.45am – 8 am	105	40

## INCLUDED

- Bicycles
- Knowledgeable local guide
- Drinking water and light refreshments
- Tickets to archaeological sites where applicable
- (Sigiriya, Pidurangala and Kaludiya pokuna)

# DESCRIPTION OF ROUTES

All the cycle routes can be undertaken by amateur cyclists. The longer trails may require additional fitness / commitment.

## **Route 1: To Pahala Thalkote and Halmilla wewa tanks**

A nice and easy cycle around the villages, with the two mighty neighbors, Pidurangala and Sigiriya constantly keeping watch over the cyclists! We will ride on the bunds of small village tanks where bird life and human life flows at an equally slow pace. If the season is right, and riders sufficiently adventures we might decide to try a bit of off-road cycling and cut across paddy fields!

The cycling surface is on flat red earth roads and well tarred roads. Ideal for family groups or anyone who loves to peddle around and explore.

## **Route 2: Around Pidurangala and the Sigiriya Moat**

You should ideally do this before you climb Sigiriya or Pidurangala. It will give you a great sense of the lay of the land. The trail takes you through the forest reservations that surround the Rocks and the villages at their base. It also, almost magically, will bring you to the moat and ramparts of Sigiriya taking you all the way around the 4 'gates' North

South, East (look hard!) and West ( you can't miss this one!) The cycling surface is on flat red earth roads and well tarred roads. Ideal for family groups and anyone who likes to understand the immediate environment of these two Rocks.



### **Route 3: Tanks – Kayanwela wewa, Rangirigama wewa, Palutaawa wewa and along Mahaweli canals**

The northern segment of this trail is identical to Trail 2 of our ‘Sigiriya and Beyond’ book, skirting at the base of Pidurangala and Sigiriya.

From the southern end of Sigiriya we extend the trail towards the farming villages and the beautiful tanks that water them. There are 9 such tanks in the vicinity of this trail and we will

definitely stop to rest and loiter by at least 3 of them. We return along the Hurulu Feeder Canal (that diverts water across river basins) that runs parallel to the village tank network.

The cycling surface is on flat red earth roads and well tarred roads, with some farm tracks thrown in!



### **Route 4: To Audangawa wewa, and Nagalawewa Viharaya**

This trail takes you right out of ‘tourist’ Sigiriya and right into the interior of ‘normal’ life. The trail lies across highly varied landscape of villages, forests, fields, the town of Kimbissa , and even passes by the side of a military camp!! Of course we also ride by beloved Sigiriya, peddling along by the moat.

We will break journey at a small Buddhist monastery, with a lovely view and caves occupied for over 2000 years.

The cycling surface is on flat red earth roads and well tarred roads, with some farm tracks thrown in!

If you will be visiting the temple, please make sure you are appropriately dressed.

## **Route 5 : To Kaludiya Pokuna, Thimbiritta wewa and Kumbukkandanwela wewa and along Mahaweli canals**

This trail passes by a number of exceptional archeological sites, but we only plan to stop and explore Kaludiyapokuna, the ruins of an ancient Buddhist Vihara buried in the jungle on the slopes of a boulder strewn range of hills.



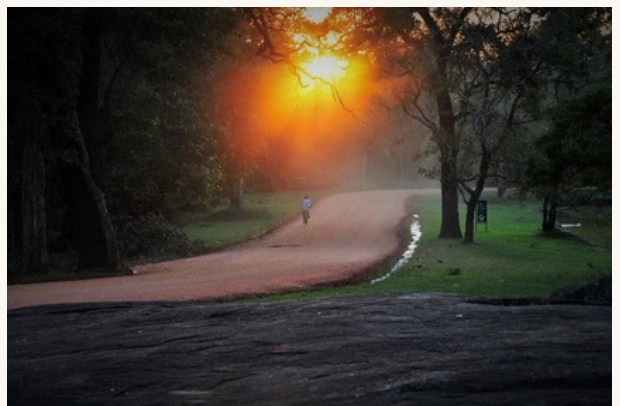
On the way to and from Kaludiyapokuna, we ride through highly varied landscapes starting from the Sigiriya Moat, and continuing across villages, farmlands, irrigation canals, forests, irrigation tanks, lovely forest tanks (lakes)...everything you want to explore!

Cycling surface combines red earth roads and well surfaced tarred roads. We will be parking the cycles and walking for at least 30min in the Kaludiya Pokuna Archeological Reserve.

## **Route 6 : Back roads of Sigiriya (Trail # 5 of Sigiriya and Beyond book)**

Various unexpected views of the Sigiriya Rock and its companion Pidurangala, and life in the shadow of these two rocks, is what we explore along this trail.

As can be expected it takes us around the two rocks as well as through forest, villages and farmlands. Its gives you and appreciation of this amazing place, beyond the much visited central site of the Sigiriya Citadel.



The cycling surface is on flat red earth roads and well tarred roads. Ideal for family groups and anyone who likes to understand the immediate environment of these two Rocks.



## **Route 7 : Sigiriya moat and Sigiriya rock inclusive of guided tour of Sigiriya**

Ride down to the World Heritage Site of Sigiriya!

The trail takes you through the forest reservations that surround the Rocks and the villages at their base, taking you all the way around the 4 'gates' North, South, East (look hard!) and West ( you can't miss this one!) We will park our cycles by the Western Entrance and explore the gardens and climb the Rock. After the climb, we will rest in the gardens for a while and then do a leisurely cycle back.

