Sustainable Excursion Policy

Travel agency and destination management company, Sri Lanka — version of November 2026

Olalalanka is committed to developing and offering excursions that create positive environmental, social, and economic impacts while minimising potential harm. This policy applies to all activities offered directly by the company and indirectly through local partners, including accommodations and destination service providers.

Policy Principles

Community collaboration and local benefit

Excursions are developed and reviewed with consideration of local community interests. Whenever possible, we engage in dialogue with local stakeholders and guides to ensure tourism activities contribute positively to livelihoods and cultural preservation. We prioritise locally owned operators, local guides, locally operated restaurants, and locally produced goods and services to maximise economic benefits within the destination.

Respect for culture and traditions

All excursions must respect local customs, religions, dress codes, and community values. Guests are informed about appropriate behaviour, including photography etiquette and culturally sensitive conduct. Experiences that promote meaningful interaction, traditional arts and crafts, and authentic regional cuisine are encouraged.

Environmental responsibility

Activities must comply with regulations governing protected areas and cultural heritage sites. We favour small group sizes to respect carrying capacity and promote low-impact transport options such as walking, hiking, or cycling where feasible. Partners are expected to prevent littering, manage waste responsibly, and avoid practices that damage natural habitats or deplete local resources.

Biodiversity and animal welfare protection

Olalalanka does not offer excursions involving animal performances, captive wildlife entertainment, or close-contact wildlife exploitation. Elephant riding and other activities that raise animal welfare concerns are excluded from our portfolio. Wildlife encounters must ensure safe distances, no feeding, and compliance with conservation guidelines. Activities must not involve the use or sale of threatened species.

Protection of children and vulnerable groups

Excursion providers are expected to fully respect children’s rights, prohibit child labour below the legal minimum age, and prevent any form of exploitation or abuse. Any violation of these principles results in immediate review and potential termination of cooperation.

Safeguarding essential community resources

Excursions must not compromise access of local communities to food, water, energy, healthcare, land, or cultural resources. Protection of community well-being is a core requirement.

Implementation in Practice

All excursions are reviewed by Olalalanka staff before inclusion in our programme. Sensitive activities — such as wildlife experiences, visits to protected areas, cultural heritage sites, or community visits — are subject to additional assessment regarding environmental and social impacts.

Monitoring takes place continuously through:

- Site visits and direct observation
- Regular communication with providers

- Systematic guest feedback collection
- Ongoing review of partner practices

Activities that do not meet our sustainability expectations are not included in our offering or are discontinued if concerns arise.

We are currently developing a more structured internal inventory and classification system for excursions to document sensitivity levels and sustainability performance more systematically. This will further strengthen monitoring and continuous improvement.

Through this policy, Olalalanka ensures that its excursion base aligns with responsible tourism principles and contributes positively to local communities, biodiversity conservation, and cultural preservation.