



Travellers Worldwide is a leading International Provider of  
Volunteering Programmes, Work Experience Internships  
and Cultural Courses Abroad

# SRI LANKA

## LAW WORK EXPERIENCE INTERNSHIP IN NEGOMBO

Intern in a small practice in Negombo (5 lawyers), which means you'll gain experience across all areas of law. The variety will be greater than you would be exposed to in a big practice.

There are 3 Courts in Negombo and 2 conduct proceedings in English. You'll attend both 'English-language' Courts and well as assisting in other duties, such as drafting legal documents, in the office.

The practice offices are situated in an amazing location right next to the Negombo fishing beach – all the houses here are typical of Colonial Sri Lankan style, and the streets are lined with trees. It is very picturesque and brimming with atmosphere.

***Thank you for your interest in this Project. Below is a description of what you can do and expect. You can volunteer whether you're taking a gap year, on a career break, retired, or on a holiday with a purpose. No matter what your age or experience, we look forward to welcoming you to the team!***

## WHAT DO YOU GET?

### SELF-DEVELOPMENT:

- New skills, more confidence, a greater understanding of a different culture, invaluable personal and professional development.
- Inside professional work experience and a chance to understand how law and business work in Sri Lanka.
- An entry on your CV or résumé that will put you head and shoulders above most others in the job market.

### SAFETY AND SECURITY

- Your safety is our top priority. We risk-assess all destination countries, projects, accommodation and more to ensure that they are stable and safe.
- We have experienced local staff with 24/7 back-up and support who are there to assist you and look after you, starting with an in-depth induction on your arrival.

### AN ADVENTURE!

- An exciting, never-to-be-forgotten adventure into Asia and the fascinating culture of Sri Lanka! And best of all ... **an unforgettable experience.**

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## SUMMARY

**Prices:** From **£1,095**, excluding flights. Please see Full [Price List Online](#).

**Duration:** From 2 weeks up to 12 weeks, subject to visa restrictions.

**Start Dates:** All year round, except for 2 weeks in April, August and December. You choose your start and finish dates.

**Requirements:** No qualifications needed, just lots of enthusiasm. Minimum age 18.

### What's Included:

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| ▶ Arranging your Programme,          | ▶ Full pre-departure support and assistance, |
| ▶ Payment Protection insurance       | ▶ Accommodation                              |
| ▶ Certificate of Completion          | ▶ Transfer to your on-site accommodation     |
| ▶ Meeting you at Colombo airport     | ▶ Local in-country team support and backup   |
| ▶ 24-hr emergency support.           | ▶ Food                                       |
| ▶ Transport to and from your project | ▶ Return transfer to airport.                |

**What Not Included:** Flights, Insurance, Cost of Visas (if a visa is required)

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

### WORK CONTENT:

Work at a Law practice situated in the middle of Negombo. The head Partner is also an acting magistrate in Negombo and is often in the office. The lawyers you'll work alongside are very friendly and speak good English. The office is small but professional. It has air conditioning, two main rooms and a staff of five local lawyers.

Sri Lankan law is based upon two legal systems - 95% of Sri Lankan criminal law is based on the British Legal system, the other 5% of their criminal law is based upon South African law.

### Key Attributes of the Internship:

- Legal research
- Drafting of legal instruments
- Court visits
- Visits to juvenile training centres and other rehabilitation centres for probationers
- Participation in negotiations and client interviews
- The opportunity to compile your own article to be published in a law journal or national newspaper on a topic of interest, with the assistance of in-house lawyers.

Although they speak Sinhalese and Tamil in Sri Lanka, the official language of law is English. Most court hearings take place in English, as does all legal documentation. Much of your work in the office may involve proof reading and drawing on your native language skills.

You will become involved in the current cases and you will also have the chance to sit on the bench at local courts observing hearings and trials. There are three courts in Negombo - the Magistrates Court, the High Court and the District Court. The Magistrates Court is conducted in Sinhalese, but it is possible that you will work at both the District Court and the High Court (where murder trials take place) - both of which conduct the majority of their proceedings in English. These are both within 2 minutes walking distance of the office and situated practically right on the beach!

### Daily Schedule:

There is not a typical daily schedule as the placement is tailored around your interests. If you wish to spend the majority of the time at Court this will be possible, likewise, if you wish to spend the majority of time in the office this can be arranged.



You'll work from approximately 08:30am to 4:00pm from Monday to Friday. A guide of what should be expected is:

The office day starts around 8am and interns will get to go to the Courts some days where they will sit on the bench and listen to the proceedings. You'll only attend Court when the proceedings take place in English. For 'Court days' you will be in court from 9-10 am and then again from around 2-3:30pm with a break for lunch in between. You will then work in the office again until 4.00pm.

On non-Court days you will stay in the office with the lawyers and help with writing deeds and day-to-day legal duties.

Exactly what your office work will involve will vary from day to day, case to case and intern to intern. You'll be able to help out with everything that goes on in the office and you will gain an extraordinary insight into the operations of law in Sri Lanka - a first-hand insight into international law.

Godfrey, the head partner of the firm is also the acting magistrate. This means he must attend post-mortems at the mortuary in cases where there is an ambiguous cause of death. If this is something you are interested in, you are welcome to attend (and please note, you do not have to attend - the lawyers in the practice are aware that some interns would find this distressing and would not wish to attend!) If you are interested, we cannot guarantee that you will be able to attend during your placement (as it is dependent on the number of post-mortems needed, which, for obvious reasons, we hope are kept to a minimum!) but on average Godfrey attends the mortuary approximately once a month.

## **DATES THE PROJECT IS CLOSED:**

The law firm will be closed in April for two weeks (10th till 20th) because of the New Year. It is also closed in August for two weeks (15th to 30th) and again in December (15th to 28th).

## **LOCATION:**

Negombo has a great vibe about it: from the intense aroma of fish from the local market, to the sound of cawing crows and the sight of ladies taking rest in the shade along with the sleeping dogs. Negombo is a popular tourist resort and is the closest beach to Sri Lanka's international airport. This fishing village was very lucky and avoided the impact of last years tsunami with just a few hotels being damaged but no fatalities suffered.

The beach is beautiful with long stretches of orange sand, palm trees and some beach front hotels. A little further back and there are many boutiques selling Sri Lankan handicrafts, markets and the general hustle and bustle of Sri Lanka.

## **Climate**

The driest and best seasons are from December to March on the west and south coasts and in the hill country, and from May to September on the east coast. December to March is also the time when most foreign tourists come, the majority of them escaping the European winter.

***“I had an amazing 8 weeks in Sri Lanka doing the law project and the Elephant Orphanage project. I met some incredible people both from travellers and from the law firm who I will definitely stay in contact with... all of these experience added together to make what was the best trip of my life! Thank you Travellers! “***

**Gemma Thomson**

***“I took part in the Law Placement in Sri Lanka, Negombo. I'm glad I did it as I loved every minute of the placement and would recommend it to others. This placement definitely exceeded my expectations, I can't recommend it highly enough and it's been a life changing experience.”***



Sarah Jane Armitage

## ACCOMMODATION

### ACCOMMODATION:

You'll live in a quaint bungalow in a residential area surround by lush Sri Lankan landscape in the Gampaha region. The bungalow is airy and is typical of the modern styling of Sri Lankan houses. The bungalow can comfortably accommodate more than 6 volunteers, whilst still allowing you to keep a sense of having your own space. The bungalow has living and dining area and plenty of outdoor areas, including a garden, making it the perfect setting for sociable evenings with the other volunteers or reading a book in peace in tropical surroundings.

Travellers' Volunteer Coordinator, Niranjala, lives in a separate close by, with her family. Many of our past volunteers who have stayed there have commented that the place offer the opportunity to get fully immersed in the wonders of Sri Lankan culture. Niranjala is a very chatty and extremely friendly and always gets the volunteers involved in her lively community activities.

You will have all necessary facilities such a comfortably furnished living area with TV and DVD player in the lounge area. Sri Lanka is a great place to buy DVD's. You will likely share your room with one or more other volunteers. The bedrooms are basic but comfortable. Bedrooms normally have single beds, mosquito nets, a clothes rack, and a ceiling fan (some rooms have standing 'pedestal' fans only).

Bedding in Sri Lanka is very basic and for some reason sheets never seem to be large enough to tuck in, so you may want to consider bringing your own bed linen with you (sheet/pillowcase).

Although we supply bed linen, towels aren't provided! You can either bring your own with you or buy one from a local shop. A tip about washing your clothes – Sri Lanka has a red dust which gets into everything – with your white washing being most at risk – you have been warned!

Facilities include shower, sink and western toilet. The showers are cold water showers here I'm afraid – it can be quite refreshing first thing in the morning before the water tank has been warmed by the sun - although with the climate being predominantly hot and humid for most of the year, taking a shower can be great way to cool off after a day spent in the Sri Lankan sun.



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- Free pick up from the nearest airport.

### HOW YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

By joining a Travellers Program you enable us to keep donating money to worthwhile projects around the world; from clothing and feeding school children, building playgrounds or funding vital conservation research - your participation makes these donations possible.

Donations to **Bridge The Gap Foundation**. This Foundation was set up by us to donate directly to particularly worthwhile and necessary projects for children and animals around the world, and partners with other NGO's to raise match-funding for worthy projects.

The price of this project is a reflection of the following costs:

- ✓ Accommodation and Food
- ✓ Full pre-departure support
- ✓ Meeting you at the airport
- ✓ Transport to the placement site
- ✓ Local in-country team support and backup
- ✓ 24hr emergency helpline
- ✓ UK administration
- ✓ Marketing (brochures, website design and maintenance, attending careers fairs, advertising, website listings and presentations)
- ✓ Project Research/Site Inspection
- ✓ Staff Training/Equipment
- ✓ Donations to worthwhile project

*"I just wanted to let you know, that I had the time of my life in Sri Lanka. It was FANTASTIC, I wish the entire experience had never had to end. I would just like to say thank you to your team of organisers for organising the spectacular trip."*

**Rajni Kanda**

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Got any questions? Please email us: [info@travellersworldwide.com](mailto:info@travellersworldwide.com)

Once you have applied for a placement, we'll contact you and send you our Welcome Pack. You'll also receive Log-on details and password for our Volunteer Extranet where you'll have access to all the documentation and information which we've put together to facilitate preparations for your adventure! Your Project Co-ordinator for your country will liaise with you throughout the arrangements process, as well as while you're on your placement and on your return home.

The documents you'll have access to also include a Country Fact file, Safety Guide and any manuals that may assist you on your particular programme (for example, Teaching Guide, Sports Manuals, Enrichment Suggestions for Animal Care, etc.). We do all we can to make your stay one that you'll never forget. As with all our destinations, the culture and heritage is different to what you're used to ... which, although one of the most exciting aspects of travelling, should be borne in mind.

Self-reliance and independence are highly appreciated in all our destinations and will help you to make the most of this wonderful opportunity! This is a truly awesome, elegant and beautiful country.

### **On Arrival, your Introduction to the Country:**

When you arrive you will be welcomed by a member of staff who will take you to your accommodation and introduce you to everyone. During your first few days you'll be given an induction so that you can learn about the country and its culture, as well as other useful information, like how to use the transport system, banks, safety issues, tipping, and lots more. You will have weekends free and this will also allow some time for travelling and sightseeing.

## THINGS TO DO IN SRI LANKA

### **LOCATION, EXPLORING AND SIGHTSEEING:**

**We cannot BEGIN to tell you how beautiful this paradise island is! Nor how cheap to live and get around. It is almost too good to be true! But it is true.**

Towering Pagodas, Hindu temples and ancient fortresses to holy rivers and sacred mountains. The local people are very welcoming and friendly, especially in the rural areas. The tea plantations are a must, the lace making, monuments and architectural splendours, etc., but the most appealing is the Elephant Orphanage at



Pinnawala. Not to be missed! It's an emotive sight that you'll never forget!

## SRI LANKA'S FANTASTIC BEACHES!

Sri Lanka has miles and miles of amazing beaches. Some of our favourites are:

**MIRISSA:** Perhaps a contender for the most beautiful beach in the world. Long, deserted and hot. You know you have got away from it all as you sit and watch the sunset over this horizon...The snorkelling is also incredible here.

**NEGOMBO:** To the north of Colombo lies Negombo, a bustling fishing town with golden beaches and a pallet of colour provided by sails and boats against the deep blue of the ocean.

**UNAWATUNA:** A sleepy peaceful cove with deep still water and a temple overlooking the bay from the protecting cliffs.

**HIKKADUWA:** A long stretch of beach with plenty of hostels, restaurants and some nice bars, not forgetting the impromptu beach parties held on the beach front bars blaring Bob Marley, Eric Clapton, Led Zeplin and many other classics! Sri Lanka is a conservative island brimming with culture and Hikkaduwa offers an exciting opportunity to holiday for the odd celebratory weekend! Many a volunteer birthday has been seen in over Hikkaduwa cocktails. You can also body board and even surf on this beach.

**ARUGAM BAY:** This tiny fishing village is Sri Lanka's newest hot spot and hosts the best surfing and an easy going happy party atmosphere. With its wide sweeping beach in front of the village and year round gorgeous swimming it is no surprise that this bay has developed into a low budget travellers haunt.

## ADRENALIN JAUNTS:

**White Water Rafting:** Sri Lanka's boulder stream rivers are the ideal setting for white water rafting. This is the best way to see the stunning environment what this region has to offer. Many tours are available and many begin with days of action, rafting the white waters. This high adventure is suitable for fish time 'go for it' rafters and experts alike. Rafting has become a very popular exciting yet safe adventure sport option.

**Rock Climbing and Mountaineering:** Mountaineering is an adventure sport that requires skills and levels of fitness that few other adventure sports can match. The mountain ranges in Sri Lanka offer breath taking, enthralling, climbing routes. Climbing is all about discovering the natural world around and with you.

**Hiking and Trekking:** There's no better way to explore the natural scenic beauty of this island with diverse climatic zones. Trekking is an excellent way to explore a country, people, their traditions and beliefs. Paths and campsites have been set up to give nature lovers the experience of a lifetime. All possible steps are taken to ensure local community benefit and nature conservation in keeping with all international camping guidelines.

**Canoeing & Kayaking:** This relatively new sport is rated as the most adventurous of all adventure sports. It involves descending a stream as it drops over waterfalls and boulders

## HOW TO BOOK

### TWO EASY WAYS ...

Complete a [booking form](#) online.

Telephone  
01903 502595 (UK)  
or  
1-603-574-4935 (USA)



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN OUR PROGRAMME!**

**We hope you'll join us!**

**Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions.**

**We're happy to help you plan your exciting adventure!**

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