



Dear Partners,

The Sri Lanka Association of Inbound Tour Operators (SLAITO) wishes to provide an update on the national recovery efforts following Tropical Cyclone Ditwah. Thanks to the coordinated contributions of government authorities, tourism stakeholders, and local communities, the situation across the country is stabilizing rapidly, and tourism operations are steadily returning to normal levels.

Situational Update on Major Tourist Centers

The following regions are functioning without major disruptions, and hotels as well as key tourist experiences are operating:

This update is as of 1 December 2025, the situation is changing rapidly so if you have further updates, please contact – Kshani de Livera (COO – SLAITO) on 0777-583189

- Negombo – Water levels have receded; hotel zones up to Waikkal are accessible.
- Colombo – Tourist zones are fully operational.
- Anuradhapura – Accessible and tourist site operating.
- Sigiriya and Dambulla – Main attractions and activities such as Sigiriya Rock Fortress, Dambulla Cave Temple, Polonnaruwa, Minneriya (Eco Park), cultural shows, village tours, and Ritigala are open.
- Kandy – Accessible from Colombo and Sigiriya, though delays may occur due to ongoing road clearance operations, however alternative routes are available.
- Nuwara Eliya - Restricted access due to road closures and clear up efforts. Travel to these regions remains discouraged until further notice.
- Ella, Haputale – Access from Kandy & Nuwara Eliya through the usual tourist route are restricted. Access through the south (Udawalawe, Yala & Southern Beaches) is possible.
- Udawalawe – Accessible and Park is open.
- Yala – Accessible and certain parts of the park is open.
- South Coast – Resorts, excursions, and coastal services are operating normally.
- East Coast (Trincomalee and Passikudah) – Access restored and tourism services functioning.

Infrastructure



- Southern Expressway, Airport Expressway, and Mirigama–Kurunegala Expressway are operating.
- Power and telecommunications have been restored across most of the country, except in a few hill-country pockets.
- Rail Transport – The Colombo–Kandy–Nanu Oya–Ella- Badulla rail line remains suspended. Southern & Kelani Valley Railway Lines remain operational.

Summary: Primary tourism circuits are active, secure, and welcoming travelers with the exception of Nuwara Eliya due to road access issues.

For a more in-depth analysis, SLAITO will provide a road & tourist site document that will be updated daily.

Sri Lanka’s Resilience and the Importance of Travel

Sri Lanka has faced numerous challenges over time, and each moment of adversity has been met with determination and resilience. The tourism industry, in particular, has repeatedly demonstrated its capacity to adapt, recover, and continue delivering exceptional experiences to visitors.

Today, one of the most impactful ways to support Sri Lanka is to continue encouraging travel to the island. Visitor arrivals help sustain local livelihoods and service providers, contribute to regional recovery and infrastructure improvements, reinforce international confidence in Sri Lanka as a safe and attractive destination, and play a positive role in driving tourism-led economic activity during this period of restoration.

Despite the recent weather disturbance, Sri Lanka remains open, safe in its main tourism hubs, and fully capable of hosting visitors with the warmth and hospitality for which the island is renowned.

Commitment From SLAITO Members

SLAITO and its member organizations continue to work diligently to ensure:

- the safe movement of travelers



- itinerary adjustments where necessary
- accurate and timely communication with partners
- consistent on-ground monitoring and reporting

Our collective effort reflects our unwavering commitment to restoring operations swiftly while safeguarding the guest experience.

Looking Ahead

Weather conditions are improving, and we anticipate temporary access restrictions to ease over the coming days. SLAITO will continue to provide verified situational updates as information evolves.

Your confidence and partnership are deeply appreciated during this time. By choosing Sri Lanka, your travelers are not only enjoying a remarkable destination they are directly contributing to the country's recovery, to the welfare of local communities, and to the continued strength of our tourism sector.

Sri Lanka remains ready to welcome the world.

Warm regards,

Sri Lanka Association of Inbound Tour Operators (SLAITO)