

**#LoveSriLanka** 

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### World | Sri Lanka

## Sri Lanka's President Says Country Is Now Safe After Easter Sunday Attacks

TIME











Sri Lanka stands with the rest of the word against the cowardice of terrorism, we are overwhelmed by the outpouring of love and solidarity from all over the world.



Hon. John Amaratunge, Minister of Tourism, Wildlife and Christian Affairs



Sri Lankan's are among the most warm and nurturing people on earth, when guests arrive on our shore's they become family...and when family is hurt the entire community comes together to protect, nurture, mourn and grieve and heal together...this is our way and it has been our way from the beginning of time. The promise of Sri Lanka is a promise of hope, of family, of deep awareness, of tolerance, of diversity, of sincere connection to humanity and nature and of generosity; we will live the promise of our motherland and we ask anyone who has ever visited us, relished our food, brewed our teas, cheered our cricket or just marveled at the beauty of a full moon to become ambassadors of kindness and compassion everywhere they go. We are overwhelmed by the outpouring of love, support and solidarity from people everywhere and look forward to welcoming the world back home to Sri Lanka

Kishu Gomes, Chairman Sri Lanka Tourism



**Incident report** 



Emergency response reviewed



**National Security update** 



Hotels security protocol update



Travel advisories



Public and Private sector strategic recovery planning

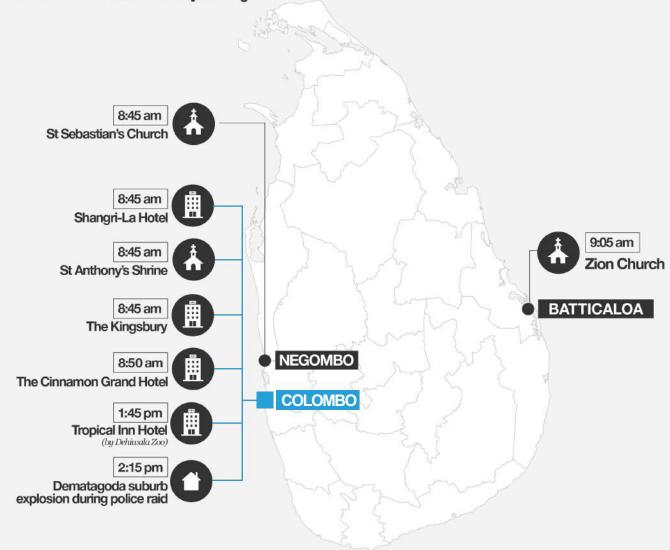


Aggressive promotion strategy





A series of coordinated bombings targeting churches and hotels on Easter Sunday killing and wounding hundreds in the worst attacks in Sri Lanka since the end of the civil war 10 years ago.



## **08 Explosions**

Total death toll: 257 Total injured: 496

The fatalities were:

01 from Bangladesh

02 from China

11 from India

03 from Denmark

01 from Japan

01 from the Netherlands

01 from Portugal

02 from Saudi Arabia

02 from Spain

01 from Switzerland

02 from Turkey

06 from the UK

01 from USA

02 holding US and UK nationalities

01 holding Swiss and Dutch nationalities

01 holding Dutch and Sri Lankan nationalities

02 holding Australian and Sri Lankan nationalities

ISIS inspired attack carried out by a small cluster of inter connected families who are now apprehended by the Sri Lanka Tri Forces

# Response protocol for tourists directly affected by the attack: Ensure immediate care, access to information and all necessary facilities

Response protocol for tourists Directly affected by the attack : ensure immediate care, access to information and all necessary facilities

Response protocol for tourists arriving in country in the immediate aftermath of the attacks and those scheduled to arrive within the next days/week

First responders were in action within minutes of the attacks

Immediate emergency medical care

Hotlines & help desks set up at hotels, hospitals and the airport

Personal assistance for all affected & loved ones with full facilitation of medical facilities, hotel assistance, transportation, sustenance, airline ticketing, international coordination, reuniting families and repatriation.

Regular media updates and Q&A's published locally and internationally via our foreign missions in all markets

As at 6/5/19 no tourists directly affected by the attacks are in the country

Accounting for all tourists in the country with hotels and operators

Continuous publicizing of Information on emergency hotline numbers and help desk services across the island.

Ensuring a clear line of information on immediate security updates and new security protocols and heightened safety protocols; curfew, checkpoints, hotel security, social media ban etc.

Facilitating necessary services; hotel assistance, transportation, itinerary changes, flight detail changes, new bookings, curfew passes, airport transfers, connecting tourists to their relevant foreign missions etc

Notifying all stakeholders

Airport help desk to manage all visitor needs including immediate return flight booking, new flight bookings, international phone calls, sustenance, medical care, child care, special needs care, senior citizen care etc

Regular security updates

Managing a daily average of 2000 tourists arriving in country post the attack

Managing the needs of tourists moving forward with their planned itinerary and facilitating changes as requested



## National security update Safety & Protection is a priority

"Sri Lanka Tri Forces are in complete control of the situation; All attackers & suspects are apprehended or killed"

Lt. Gen Mahesh Senanayake

Enhanced national security protocol includes;

- National Tri forces deploy 15,000 highly trained cardres across the island to support Sri Lanka Police forces
- Advance security checks and surveillance across the island
- Airforce takes complete charge of all airports
- Navy in complete control of all sea ports and coastline



## Hotel security protocol update Enhanced Security Protocol Deployed

The Hoteliers association along with Sri Lanka tourism have ensured enhanced protocols are rolled out across core areas;

People – enhanced training

Process – new procedures and protocols strictly enforced

Equipment – x-ray scanners and sensors installed



## Travel advisories Working Classly With Foreign Go

**Working Closely With Foreign Governments** 

A central task force has been appointed to work with the foreign ministries of all the countries that have issued advisories to their citizens.

The government is aggressively demonstrating that the situation in the country is completely under control and that security/safety is a number one priority. We hope to see tangible progress on softening and completely lifting these advisories shortly.



## **Sri Lanka Tourism Alliance**

### Private sector led strategic initiative

Launched 'LoveSriLanka.org', a simple and effective digital portal which will be the focal point for all tourism related updates that a foreign traveler or travel agent would want to easily access

#### Contents:

Security updates – aggressively highlights the ability of our forces to eradicate this threat

Press releases & blog with positive stories - real, positive traveler experiences in Sri Lanka post the incident

Agglomeration of positive tourism related news from other channels local and foreign

Ability to sign up for email updates – travel agents, tour operators need this

Instagram feed with hashtag #lovesrilanka that Sri Lanka tourism entities tag their best posts with

General info for travellers - key tourist attractions, logistical information such as airlines flying and getting around the country, airport updates

Key contact numbers including tourist police & emergencies



## **Sri Lanka Tourism Board**

### Public sector led strategic initiative

#### Crisis PR

Setting the groundwork for future reputational recovery for the Sri Lankan tourism sector:

#### 1. Channel management & rapid rebuttal

Ensure that the situation within the country, and our response to it in terms of protecting tourists, is properly understood by a range of stakeholders; including key partners, influencers, traditional media and across social media.

24/7 rapid rebuttal service, covering all time zones. A dedicated team across global offices will monitor, analyse and, where necessary, engage with stakeholders across these channels to ensure the situation, and SL's actions and position are all fully and correctly understood.

#### 2. Scenario mapping & planning

Undertake detailed scenario planning to identify the full range of scenarios, assess their risk profile and priority and draw up detailed scenario plans for high profile eventualities.

#### 3. Plan ahead; research, understand, align Consumer research across all source markets

Developing a holistic reputation recovery plan

4.Global Destination Marketing campaign to launch as soon as possible.

## **Business As Usual**

**Aggressive Promotion Is Ongoing** 



Sri Lanka Tourism at ATM in Dubai

**IMEX** 

**UNWTO Gourmet Tourism** 

International blogger tour

**International Surf competition** 

**CITES October 2019** 

West End production of Matilda



The 14th annual Lanka Challenge Island wide tuk tuk rally with participants from Britain, Australia, Germany, New Zealand, Singapore, Ireland, Denmark and Switzerland which flagged off the day before the incident continued as planned and all the participants went on to enjoy the experience with complete assurance of their safety and security through out the island



Sri Lanka is safe. Sri Lanka is open. Sri Lanka needs your support.





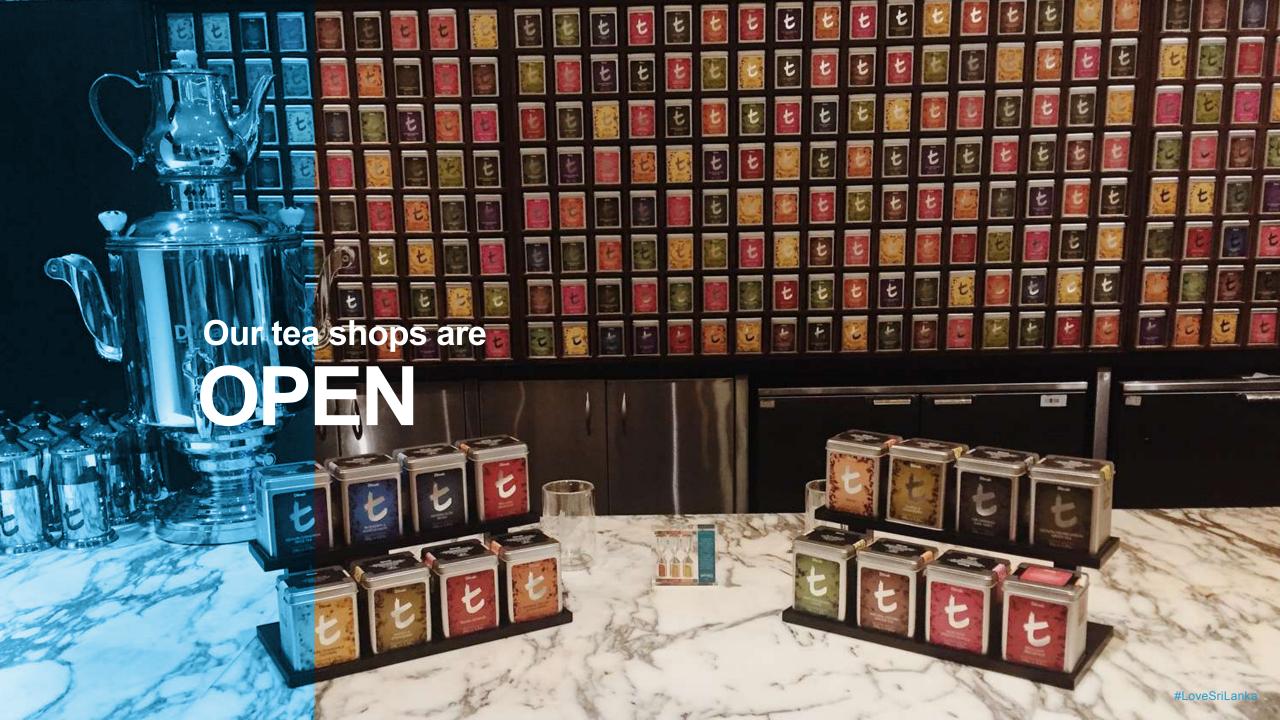


































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