

Damubulla Cave Temple



Dambulla Cave Temple, known as the Golden Temple or Golden Rock Temple of Dambulla is a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Dambulla Cave Temple is situated on top of a rock formation and is the largest and best-preserved cave-temple in Sri Lanka. Dambulla Cave temple complex is famous for its five cave temples on a rock, although there are over 80 documented caves in the surrounding vicinity.

These cave temples contain Statues and murals. The first 03 caves are better, older and larger than the other two. Dambulla Caves date back to 3 – 2nd Centuries BC when these caves housed Buddhist monasteries. King Walagambahu 1st from Anuradhapura era converted these caves to a Cave-Temple complex in 1st Century BC. Some caves dates to 1st Century BC. All the 5 cave walls and ceilings are covered with Buddhist murals and there are more than 130 Buddha statues, statues of Gods and Kings are also found here

The first cave is the 'Devaraja Lena' (Divine-King's cave) contains a large statue of Buddha and Buddha's disciples. The second cave – which is supposed to be the largest, contains many standing and seated statues of Buddha, statues of deities & gods and statues of King Walagambahu, who converted the caves into a Cave Temple in 1st Century BC and King Nissankamalla who renovated and extended the cave complex in 12th Century. This Cave is named 'Maharaja Lena' or the 'Cave of the Great Kings'

Note: This attraction involves climbing of many steps / stairs

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