

Wildlife Calendar

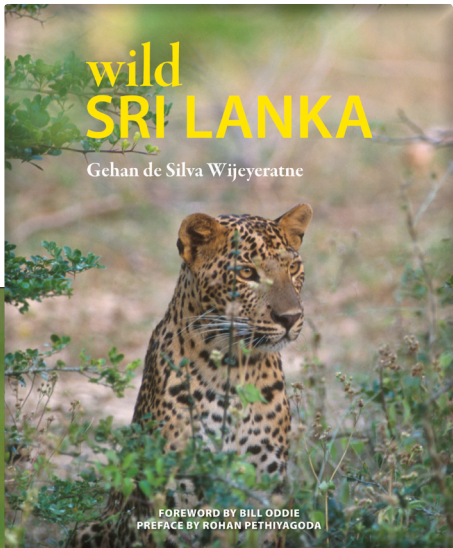
- Key
- Peak numbers or best months
 - Other viewing months
 - Rare; can turn up any time
 - ◐ Insufficient data. May have a good encounter rate

Opposite: KBMC1 was one of the 'media-friendly' Leopards used to publicize the fact that Yala is the best place in the world to see a Leopard.

MARINE WILDLIFE	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Blue Whale (Mirissa)	●	●	●	●							●	●
Blue Whale (Trincomalee)			●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
Sperm Whale (Kalpitiya)	◐	●	●	●						◐	◐	◐
Sperm Whale (Trincomalee)			●	●	◐	◐	◐	◐	◐			
Bryde's Whale (<i>Balaenoptera edeni</i>) (Kalpitiya)	●	●	●	●						●	●	●
Spinner Dolphin (Mirissa and Kalpitiya)	●	●	●	●						●	●	●
Spinner Dolphin (Trincomalee)			●	●	●	●	●	●	●			
Snorkelling (west coast)	●	●	●	●							●	●
Snorkelling (east coast)				●	●	●	●	●		●		
Pelagics: noddies, skuas and shearwaters (Kalpitiya)				●								
Marine Turtles												
Olive Ridley Turtle (<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●*	●
Green Turtle (<i>Chelonia mydas</i>)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Leatherback Turtle (<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>)	●	●	●	●†	●†	●†	●†	●	●	●	●	●
Loggerhead Turtle (<i>Caretta caretta</i>)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Hawksbill Turtle (<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

*Kosgoda best †Rare nesters except in Godawaya

TERRESTRIAL WILDLIFE	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Big game and other large animals												
Leopard (Yala and Wilpattu)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Sloth Bear (Yala and Wilpattu)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
The Elephant Gathering (Minneriya and Kaudulla)						●	●	●	●	●		
Elephants (Uda Walawe)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Primates (Cultural Triangle, Hakgala, etc.)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Mugger Crocodile aggregations (Yala)							●	●	●			
Large reptiles: crocodiles, Water and Land Monitors (<i>Varanus salvator kabarangoya</i> and <i>V. bengalensis</i>)	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Birding												
Sinharaja bird wave	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Migrant wader concentrations (e.g. Palatupana)	●	●	●								●	●
Migrants (esp. Himalyan migrants in Nuwara Eliya)	●	●	●								●	●
Other wildlife												
Dragonflies and butterflies	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Swarms of 'white and yellow' butterflies in dry zone		●	●									
Flowering of introduced trees in cities						●	●					



Sri Lanka has one of the highest species densities in the world including a number of endemic plants and animals. It is one of the best places in the world for seeing Blue Whales, Sperm Whales, Leopards, Asian Elephants and Sloth Bears, dubbed Sri Lanka's 'Big Five'. In this book Gehan de Silva Wijeyeratne brings together all of Sri Lanka's top wildlife stories illustrated with his own stunning photographs.

